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Inside ...**

THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNICATOR

Volume 2, Issue 1 Wednesday December 18, 2002

"Your Good News - Little Newspaper"

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Minden
Moore's Falls
Kinmount
Carnarvon
West Guilford
Miner's Bay
Eagle Lake
Ingoldsby
Fort Irwin
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Donald
Gelert

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The Highlands Communicator is pleased to announce it's Birthday. One year ago to this day, we published our first Highlands Communicator. Over the past year we have grown, added new columns, met wonderful people, attended some fantastic events and had a great time doing all of it.

None of this would be possible at all if it weren't for the fantastic people who live in and visit the Haliburton Highlands. The response from you-our readers, has been overwhelming to say the least. (cont. pg 2)



Highlights of the recently held Minden Santa Claus Parade included the man on the stilts handing out candy to all the kids. Pictured above is a float participant - a couple reindeer.



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...from pg. 1

To this day we still receive positive comments daily about our little paper and we are happy that so many of you are enjoying our "Good News Only" free monthly publication.

We especially thank all our advertisers. Without them there would be no publication. Their on-going support has been fantastic and Brett & I can't say thank you enough. We will continue to do our best to make the advertising work for you.

We thank everyone for being patient and letting us work out bugs and adapt to quick growth. Thank you for forgiving any mistakes, typo's etc., and we thank everyone who has

**We Thank
You All!
Joanne &
Brett.
(Publishers)**



called with new ideas, suggestions and offers to help in any way they can.

We believe our goal of the paper is being met. We set out to produce a fun publication to promote the positive aspects of our community, its people, businesses, organizations and events. We also wanted to throw in lots of fun stuff to help put a smile on a face or two, and also throw in some interesting stuff to maybe learn something new or

create a conversation or two.

We are committed to continue to highlight all these qualities and introduce some new columns and ideas we have been sitting on for a bit.

Let's not forget that we are always open to any neat ideas and encourage all to give us a call. We also ask that businesses, organizations and people contact us with story ideas.

We also want to thank those who contribute through article submissions such as David Alexander Risk, Tara-Lynn Prindiville, Brad Mickle, Larry Levely (keep those jokes coming), Shirley Wallace, the people at the Health Unit, and all who email, fax or write us with material.

Haliburton County can be proud of it's people, businesses and organizations. We hope we are making a positive contribution to such a wonderful area and look forward to many more years of producing The Highlands Communicator.



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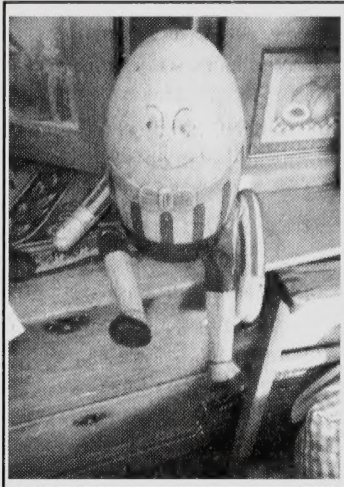
email: dmccconnell@halhinet.on.ca web site www.lady_esther.tripod.com

EYE ON BUSINESS

Antiques & Neat stuff

by Brett Irvine

If you've never stopped in to Antiques & Neat Stuff in Haliburton, you're missing out on catching some fine treasures that make excellent gift ideas or simply neat décor for your home, office or cottage.



There's definitely lots to see in this different little store. There are gifts for all from \$9 up to \$200 in all shapes and sizes. There's also some very interesting and cool Christmas decorations awaiting your visit.

The store's owner, Joan Ward, says she always tries to keep getting new stuff in. "We've got many, many artists and artisans represented from coast to coast in here and a couple

locals' neat stuff too. I like to get the unique and unusual stuff but, if it's hand-made, all the better," says Joan.

You'll have to look high and low to find all the different items from unique pillows, floral accents, candle holders, neat clocks, lamps, rugs, and many other just plain neat things. They also carry the great Haliburton Soap Factory line. "That's a great product...an excellent stocking stuffer," says Joan.

The idea to open the store was born when Joan got bored after she and her husband sold the Wig-A-Mog. "I was just sitting around watching TV and eating. I felt like I was in God's Waiting Room," jokes Joan. "I enjoy this business," she adds.

Antiques & Neat Stuff was opened by Joan in July 2000.



Joan Ward is pictured amongst some of the many "neat" items at her store in Haliburton.

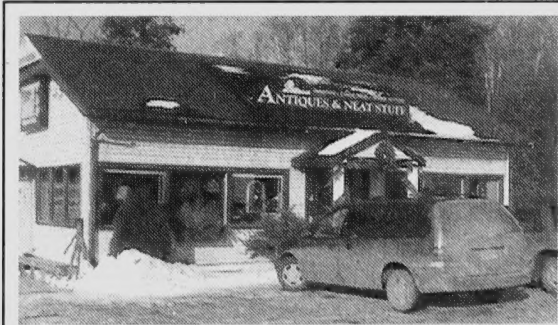
Pauline Baumgartner and Betty Douglas had a second-hand store taking half the building that is now all Antiques & Neat Stuff. They decided to give it up to spend more time with family and Joan took over the entire building and expanded her business.

Joan had always wanted a little store. Since she had a background in furniture refinishing, she decided that she could do that and refinish antiques, but soon realized there was too much to learn about the antiques. She decided to focus more on the gift end of the business.

So, whether you're searching for that last minute Christmas gift or some fresh 'neat' décor, be sure to stop in to Antiques and Neat Stuff. They're located at the corner of Industrial Park

Road in Haliburton. You're sure to find some unique items you've never seen before.

Antiques & Neat Stuff is open 7 days a week from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. until Christmas and, after that 11-4:30 Thursday to Sunday and 'by chance' Monday to Wednesday. You can reach the store at 457-1160.



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Dog Sled Derby Coming in January

The Haliburton Highlands will be hosting a World Cup (International Federation of Sled Dog Sports, IFSS) accredited race January 11-12, 2003. The 2nd annual sprint race will feature 4, 6 & 8 dog teams racing 4, 6 & 8 miles respectively and include both Open & Purebred classes. The races will start & finish in downtown Haliburton Village.

Mushers and dog-teams from Canada & the USA will race



out of Haliburton Village across frozen Head Lake and through a beautiful snowy wilderness park to compete for the richest dog derby purse in Ontario of \$10,500. Race organizers guarantee ample spectator viewing locales in

Head Lake Park to watch the excitement of the start, finish and all events. Two additional spectator viewing areas out on the trail will be accessible, and there is also unlimited free parking.

Races start on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Following the opening the 4 dog race will commence, followed by the 6 dogs and then the 8 dog. The popular and entertaining Kid & Mutt and Youth Race will be held around 1 p.m. Sunday's schedule will be the same except that the races will start at 8:15 a.m., and the closing ceremonies and prize awards are scheduled for 3:45 p.m.

Letters To Santa



The following Letters to Santa are from students at Archie Stouffer Public School in Minden.

Dear Santa: I love you. How are your reindeer? I will leave you cookies and milk. I will leave your reindeer carrots and water. I would like to have a bey-

blade to play with. Thank you, Santa. Merry Christmas!
Yours truly, Gage

Dear Santa: How are you? I have been a good boy this year. For Christmas this year could I have a Bey-Blade, please? I am moving Santa. Please don't go to my old house. I will leave some of my Halloween treats for you.

Yours truly, Johnathan Switzer

Dear Santa: How are you Santa? How are your reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus? I hope you have a good ride on Christmas Eve. I would like a Barbie, Karoke, and a Bey-Blade. I am going to leave out cookies for you. I love you.

Yours truly, Christina Brown

Dear Santa: How are you? I wonder how many presents you deliver? I have been a good girl this year. For Christmas I would like some clothes, chapterbooks, a computer, a picture of David and you and everybody else. Merry Christmas, Santa.

Yours truly, Tatianna Ashley Hume-Picanco

Dear Santa: How are you doing? I want a mini four-wheeler and ten bey-blades and a movie about snowboarding, and more. Thank you, Santa.

Love Alex Turcotte.



Happy Holidays

May your holiday season be sweet and warm.

Out of Time Antiques



Merry Christmas!

from a really busy person and her helpers.

The Threadmill



Who We Are

THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNICATOR

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Joanne & Brett

Publisher, Editor, Advertising Sales: **Brett Irvine**
Publisher, Reporter / Photographer, Layout: **Joanne Welsh**

Sales Rep.: **Monica Horning**
Reporter, Photographer - Sales Rep.: **Diana Burns**

Special Guests: **David Alexander Risk, Tara-Lyn Prindville, Brad Mickle**

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Local drop-off depot located at **H & R Block / Central Office Supplies -Haliburton**
email: highlands@thecomunicator.ca

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Diana Burns

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Published Monthly

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Letters To Santa

Dear Santa: How are you doing? I would like to know how your reindeer are doing. I like your reindeer. I would like a pose-me pet dog, a mermaid doll who has hair that turns pink, a Bey-Blade, a remote-control truck. I will give you a letter and cookies and milk. Thank you.

Yours truly, Bryanna

Dear Santa: How are you? How many elves do you have? I would like five BeyBlades, a Spiderman web blaster, a snowboard, a remote control boat and a golden necklace. I've been a terrific boy this year. Me and my brother will leave out milk and cookies for you. Love Michael Robert Wilbee!!

Dear Santa: How many Elves do you have? How many reindeer do you have? Do you know how much I love you? I am going to leave you cookies and a drink too. I want to have 2 Bey-blades, a remote control 4x4 and a snowboard. Love Yours truly, Ben Hicks.

Dear Santa: How are you? How are your reindeer? I want the RAPUNZEL BARBIE for Christmas this year. I hope your reindeer are okay. I love you, Santaclaus. Yours truly, Haley Hogan

Dear Santa: How are you? What are your reindeers' names? I want one of the princess castles for Christmas. I love Santa Claus. From your friend, Summer Lafferty

Dear Santa: How are you? How are your reindeer and Mrs. Claus? How are you, Santa? How many elves to you have? Can you try to bring me two bey-blades and a remote-control monster-truck and a lot of yu-gi-oh and a yellow fox hat or red fox hat? Please bring me a four-wheeler and a skidoo or a dirt bite. I have been a good boy. Bye Tanner Hamilton

Dear Santa: How are you? How are your elves doing? I have been a good girl. This year I would like easy books to read, a toy horse, and a belt for my big brother. I would like some clothes for my little brother.

Yours truly, Via Swiezawska

To Santa: How are you? I am fine. I would like for Christmas a Kellydoll for Christmas and for Christmas I would like the Repunzel doll and a rocking horse. Yours truly, Sonia

Dear Santa: How are you and Mrs. Claus? I have been a good girl. Can I please have a Bey-Blade with a Bit-Beast? I miss you and Mrs. Claus.

Yours truly, Melissa...I love you.

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Silly Snapshots

We have more great pictures people
have sent in coming in the new year!!



Now That's A Tree...



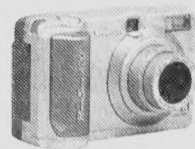
Photo submitted by Larry Levely.

Got a silly pic? Send it to us and we'll run it here.
It could be a pic of something silly, or someone
making a funny face, a silly pet
picture, a funny sign, whatever. Send it
along to us. Our address is on pg. 4 -
Who we Are.



Thinking Digital?

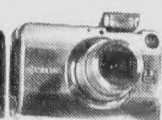
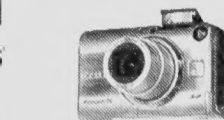
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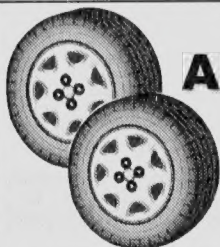
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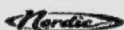


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'Twas The Month After Christmas

submitted by Larry Levely

'Twas the month after Christmas,
and all through the house
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).
I'd remember the marvellous meals I'd prepared;
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,

The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt.
I said to myself, as I only can
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"

So away with the last of the sour cream dip,
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.

I won't have a cookie – not even a lick.
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore,
But isn't that what January is for?
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!



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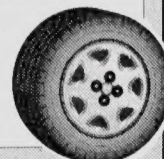
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Who Dun-it

Cold Tale of the Jewel Thief



The bitter winter wind nearly blew detective Minden's hat off as he strode past the ice frosted car in Mrs. Stonetemple's driveway in Carnarvon. "Winter is definitely here" he thought to himself. He carefully climbed the icy stairs to the doorway.

Mrs. Stonetemple answered the door and invited the detective in. "Sure is cold out there," stated Minden. "Too cold for burglars you'd think," replied Stonetemple.

"Tell me about the robbery," said Minden as she took off his coat and laid it on the chair by the door.

"Well, I just got home a few minutes ago. I came in and saw my safe was open. I called you right away. I'm glad you could come so fast," replied Mrs. Stonetemple.

"I see. We may have a hot trail for such a cold night," said the detective, chuckling.

"Hey, I've just had a fortune in jewels stolen here. I don't think this is a very good time for jokes," she said.

"I agree, so why did you call me out here on such a cold night for this joke of yours?" the detective asked.

Why does the detective not believe Mrs. Stonetemple?

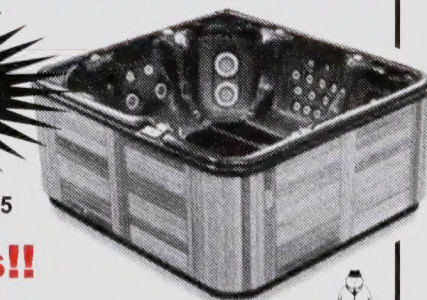
answer ... pg. 64

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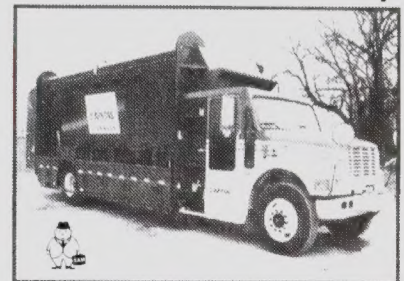
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They also have a great website www.butterball.com which offers free how-to video assistance in preparing, cooking and stuffing a turkey.

The regular hours of the turkey hotline on Christmas Eve and Christmas day are 6 a.m. – 3 p.m. From December 16 to the 27 (excluding Christmas eve & day) the Turkey Talk-Line is manned from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Automated assistance is available after hours.

If you are stuck – give them a call!!

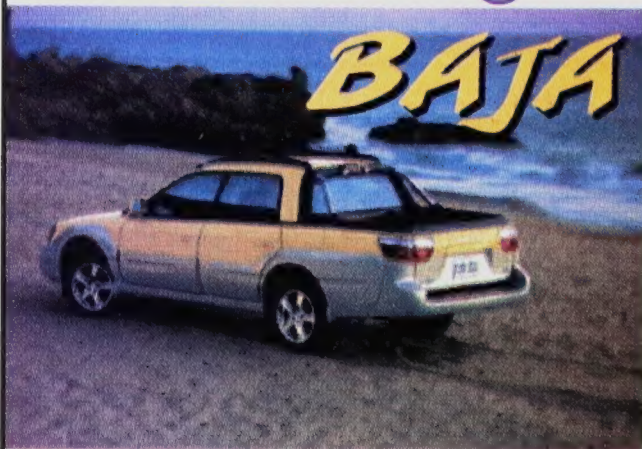
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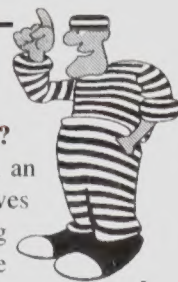
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Dumb Criminals



Can You Give Me A Lift ... Officer?

Police reported that a man flagged down an unmarked police car and offered two detectives crack cocaine to drive him home. According to police spokesperson Mark Ryan, the detectives were just returning from a drug bust and were wearing blue jackets identifying them as Suffolk County Police in big white letters.

He Wasn't A Chicken... Just a Fool...

Aaron Bell, 19, has been convicted of robbery after a particularly lame effort on his part: Bell decided to hit the KFC store in West Philadelphia, Penn., during the hours the safe's time lock wouldn't open. He should have known that — he had worked as a cook at the very KFC he was robbing for 2-1/2 years. He wasn't wearing a mask or disguise, and all the employees knew who it was that was robbing them. Bell left empty-handed ...and showed up at the store to work his next-scheduled shift three days later. "He was acting like nothing had happened," said the prosecutor in the case. Employees called the police while Bell was in the men's room, changing into his uniform.

There's clearly something more fried there than the chicken.

The Beauty Of The Season...

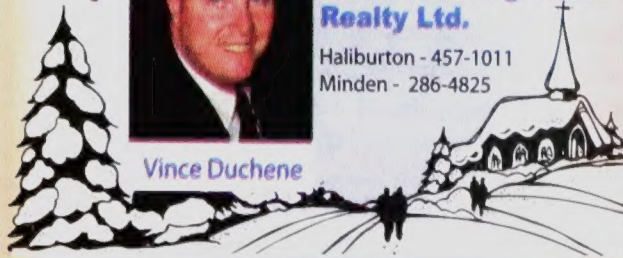
is in the glorious gift God sent to earth.
May you and your family be blessed this Christmas and throughout the new year

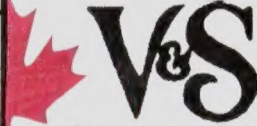


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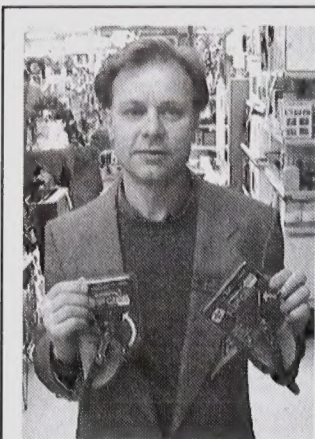
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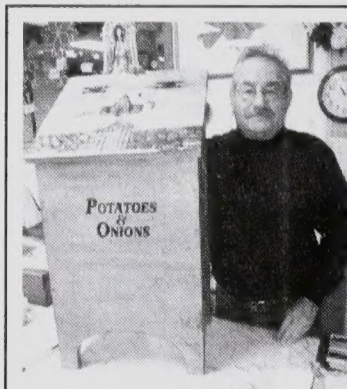
Merchant's Christmas Picks



Ray Langdon of Haliburton Home Hardware feels the flip-grips are great stocking stuffers. He's already sold over 100 of these exclusive to Home Hardware products.

Not finished with your Christmas Shopping yet? Well, you don't have to travel far to get that perfect gift. There are lots of great shops right here in the Haliburton Highlands.

In this paper we feature some of the local merchants "CHRISTMAS PICK" - an item from their own store that they are picking as one of their favourite items. All these stores and others in the area have so much to choose from that it was hard to get them to pick just one - so be sure to visit these and other shops in the area to see all they have to offer.



Rubin Fergenbaum of Crafter's Warehouse in Haliburton (Lower level of Stedman's Mall) picked this beautiful hand crafted potato & onion box.



Rosemarie at Treasures in Haliburton adores the Christmas figurines.

**SHOP
THE
HIGHLANDS**

Clearance Sale

SALE Toys & Christmas Decorations

30% off
Regular Price

Christmas Lights

20% off
Regular Price

Also
In Store Specials
on Christmas Catalogue Items, Gifts, Appliances, T.V.s & Stereos

Haliburton Home hardware

Highland St. Haliburton **457-1402**

Yuletide Greetings

May the beauty of the holidays shine throughout the season for you and yours.

Merry Christmas!

Marion, Janet & Marilynne
Head Inn Hairstyling - Minden

Treasure The Moments

Christmas is a time for celebrating. We hope that this season brings you joy hope and peace as you gather with friends and family. And may the light and warmth of the season ~~spend~~ *spread* throughout your life in the coming year

**Andy, Mary & Gail
Kitchen's Etc.**
Haliburton

SHOP THE HIGHLANDS



Sandra at Crafts 'n More in Haliburton loves the Angels.



Minden V & S Sales Associate Cass Weyrich suggests the fleece sheet set to keep you warm in the winter and cool in the summer.



Joanne Nichols, Manager at Country Rose in Haliburton favours the poinsettia trees. They will last indefinitely. They grow 4.5 ft. & are unique.



Linda Easton at Easton's Valu-mart in Minden recommends these cute gifts.

Quick Christmas Fact

Happy HOLIDAYS...

In 1836, Alabama was the first state in the USA to declare Christmas a legal holiday.



Jennifer Picard at Loonie Plus in Minden likes the variety of candle holders in stock at the store.



*Our customers' patronage—
the best gift of all!*

Thanks for your continued support.



Eastons
valu-mart

Christmas Trees \$15.99

Minden Location Only

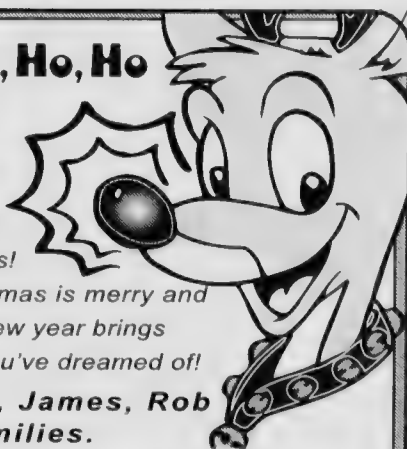
Ho, Ho, Ho

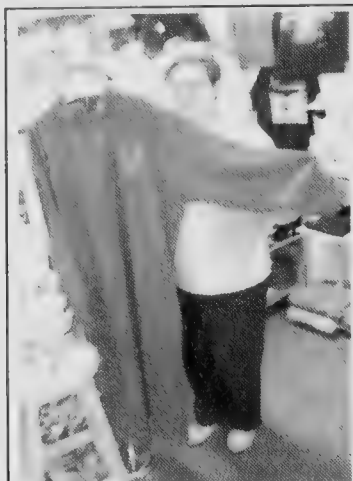
Our best wishes
for happy holidays!

Hope your Christmas is merry and
bright and your new year brings
you everything you've dreamed of!

**Bob, Dianne, James, Rob
and families.**

County Auto & Rad - Haliburton





Diane Blanchard, manager of Highland Images in Haliburton recommends a warm fleece lounge.

SHOP THE HIGHLANDS



There's more than groceries at Easton's Valumart in Haliburton. Mike's Christmas pick is this electronic keyboard.



Joan Ward of Antiques & Neat Stuff in Haliburton liked this unique handcrafted bear. There's lots to see at Joan's shop.



Susan Quinto of Country Magic in Minden shows a beautifully framed Trisha Romance print.

The 3 stages of man:

He believes in Santa Claus.
He doesn't believe in Santa Claus.
He is Santa Claus.



Sherry Stromberg of Minden Home Hardware likes the George Foreman Health Grill.



**Stedmans
V&S
Department Store**



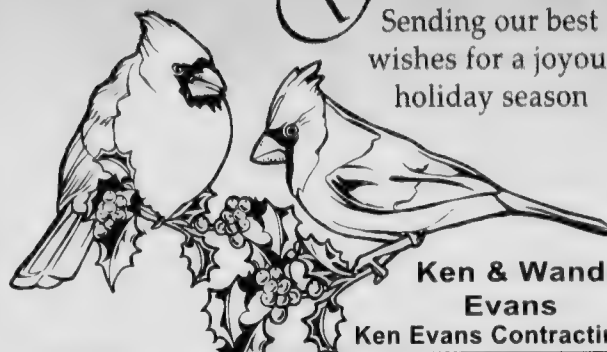
John & Robyn

Bobbie Cassie Ainslie
Donna Karen Vanessa
Carla Brock

**THANKS FOR YOUR YEAR
LONG SUPPORT!**

Season's Greetings

Sending our best wishes for a joyous holiday season



**Ken & Wanda
Evans
Ken Evans Contracting**

Urban Legends

The following are two Urban Legends, both with a Christmas theme to them... enjoy...

Here's one for Christmas... For 25 years two brothers-in-law traded the same pair of gift pants back and forth between them, each time finding more inventive ways to wrap the beasties....

It all began in 1964 when Larry Kunkel's mom gave him a pair of moleskin pants. After wearing them a few times, he found they froze stiff in Minnesota winters and thus wouldn't do. That next Christmas, he wrapped the garment in pretty paper and presented it to his brother-in-law.

Brother-in-law Roy Collette discovered he didn't want them either. He bided his time until the Christmas after, then packaged them up and gave them back to Kunkel. This yearly exchange proceeded amicably until one year Collette twisted the pants tightly and stuffed them into a 3-foot-long, 1-inch wide pipe.

And so the game began. Year after year, as the pants were shuffled back and forth, the brothers strove to make unwrapping them more difficult, perhaps in the hope of ending the tradition. In retaliation for the pipe, Kunkel compressed the pants into a 7-inch square, wrapped them with wire and gave the "bale" to Collette. Not to be outdone, Collette put the pants into a 2-ft.-square crate filled with stones, nailed it shut, banded it with steel and gave the trusty trousers back to Kunkel.

Kunkel next had the pants mounted inside an insulated window and shipped them off to Collette. Collette broke the glass, recovered the trousers, stuffed them into a 5-inch coffee can, which he soldered shut. The can was put in a 5-gallon container filled with concrete and reinforcing rods and given to Kunkel the following Christmas.

Kunkel installed the pants in a 225-lb. homemade steel ashtray made from 8-inch steel casings and etched Collette's name on the side. Collette had trouble retrieving the treasured trousers, but succeeded without burning them with a cutting torch.

Collette found a 600-pound safe and had it decorated with red and green stripes, put the pants inside and welded the safe shut.

The pants next turned up in a drab green, 3-foot cube that once was a 1974 Gremlin. A note attached to the 2,000-pound scrunched car advised Collette that the pants were inside the glove compartment.

In 1982 Kunkel faced the problem of retrieving the pants from a tire 8 ft. high and 2 ft. wide and filled with 6,000 lbs. of concrete. On the outside Collette had written, "Have a Goodyear."

In 1983 the pants came back to Collette in a 17.5-ft. red rocket ship filled with concrete and weighing 6 tons. Inside the rocket were 15 concrete-filled canisters, one of which housed the pants.

Collette's revenge for the rocket ship was delivered to Kunkel in the form of a 4-ton Rubik's Cube in 1985. The cube was made of concrete that had been baked in a kiln and covered with 2,000 board feet of lumber.

Kunkel "solved the cube," and for 1986 gift-giving repackaged the pants into a station wagon filled with 170 steel generators all welded together. Because the pants have to be retrieved undamaged, Collette was faced with carefully taking apart each component.

Sadly, 1989's packaging scheme brought the demise of the much-abused garment.

Collette was inspired to encase the pantaloons in 10,000 lbs. of jagged glass that he would then deposit in Kunkel's front yard. The pants were shipped to a friend in Tennessee who managed a glass

Appropriate Ones For The Holidays

manufacturing company. While molten glass was being poured over the insulated container that held them, an oversized chunk fractured, transforming the pants into a pile of ashes.

The ashes were deposited into a brass urn and delivered to Kunkel along with this epitaph: "Sorry, Old Man Here lies the Pants. . . An attempt to cast the pants in glass brought about the demise of the pants at last."

The urn now graces the fireplace mantel in Kunkel's home.

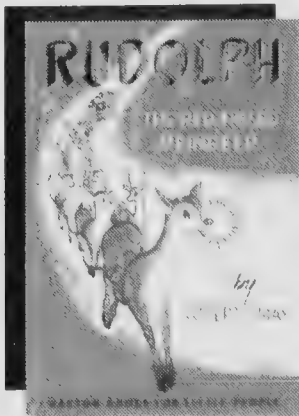
What... no thankyou???

A busy advertising executive ran out of time to buy presents for family and close friends. So instead she decided to enclose some rather generous cheques with her Christmas cards, scribbling the message: "Have a lovely Christmas but, if you don't mind, buy your own present this year!"

A little impersonal, but actually fairly practical, she thought. Except that a week or so into January, having not received the customary thank-yous from her relatives and friends, she found all the cheques in a drawer. In the rush, she had neglected to enclose them.



Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer... How He Came To Be



To most of us, the character of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer — immortalized in song and a popular TV special — has always been an essential part of our Christmas folklore. But Rudolph is a decidedly twentieth-century invention whose creation can be traced to a specific time and person. The character 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer' was created for the Montgomery

Ward group of department stores.

Rudolph came to life in 1939 when the Chicago-based Montgomery Ward company (operators of a chain of department stores) asked one of their copywriters, 34-year-old Robert L. May, to come up with a Christmas story they could give away to shoppers as a promotional gimmick. (The Montgomery Ward stores had been buying and giving away coloring books for Christmas every year, and May's department head saw creating a giveaway booklet of their own as a way to save money.) May, who had a penchant for writing children's stories and limericks, was tapped to create the booklet.

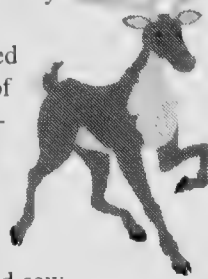
May, drawing in part on the tale of The Ugly Duckling and his own background (he was a often taunted as a child for being shy, small, and slight), settled on the idea of an underdog ostracized by the reindeer community because of his physical abnormality: a glowing red nose. Looking for an alliterative name, May considered and rejected Rollo (too cheerful and carefree a name for the story of a misfit) and Reginald (too British) before deciding on Rudolph. He then proceeded to write Rudolph's story in verse, as a series of rhyming couplets, testing it out on his 4-year-old daughter Barbara as he went along. Although Barbara was thrilled with Rudolph's story,

May's boss was worried that a story featuring a red nose — an image associated with drinking and drunkards — was unsuitable for a Christmas tale. May responded by taking Denver Gillen, a friend from Montgomery Ward's art department, to the Lincoln Park Zoo to sketch some deer. Gillen's illustrations of a red-nosed reindeer overcame the hesitancy of May's bosses, and the Rudolph story was approved. Montgomery Ward distributed 2.4 million copies of the Rudolph booklet in 1939, and although wartime paper shortages curtailed printing for the next several years, a total of 6 million copies had been given by the end of 1946.

The post-war demand for licensing the Rudolph character was tremendous, but since May had created the story as an employee of Montgomery Ward, they held the copyright and he received no royalties. Deeply in debt from the medical bills resulting from his wife's terminal illness (she died about the time May created Rudolph), May persuaded Montgomery Ward's corporate president, Sewell Avery, to turn the copyright over to him in January 1947. With the rights to his creation in hand, May's financial security was assured. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was printed commercially in 1947 and shown in theaters as a nine-minute cartoon the following year.

The Rudolph phenomenon really took off, however, when May's brother-in-law, songwriter Johnny Marks, developed the lyrics and melody for a Rudolph song. Marks' musical version of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (turned down by many who didn't want to meddle with the established Santa legend) was recorded by Gene Autry in 1949, sold two million copies that year, and went on to become one of the best-selling songs of all time (second only to "White Christmas"). A TV special about Rudolph narrated by Burl Ives was produced in 1964 and remains a popular perennial holiday favorite.

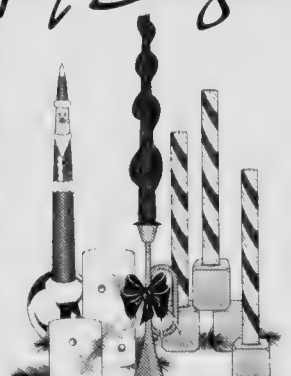
May quit his copywriting job in 1951 and spent seven years managing his creation before returning to Montgomery Ward, where he worked until his retirement in 1971. May died in 1976, comfortable in the life his reindeer creation had provided for him.



Let The Joy Begin

Merry
Christmas from
our family
to yours!

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of D & K Masonry



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Races Start 12 Noon
Races Finish 5:00 p.m.

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LIVE MUSIC DANCE

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Ron Nigrini & Western Radio

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Haliburton County
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For The Health of the Highlands

For More Information Please Call
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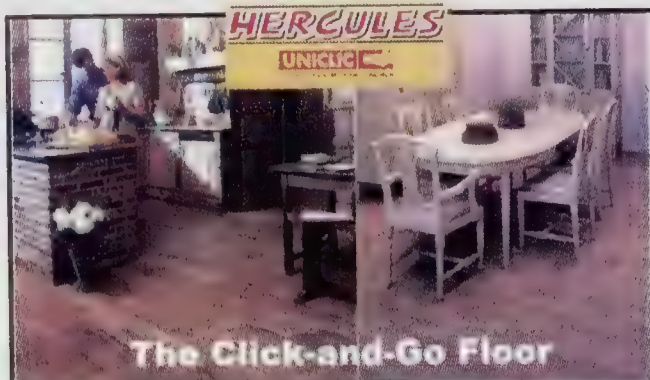


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THAT'S LIFE ...

by the Bashful Comic



Smart Dog!

A butcher is working, and really busy. He notices a dog in his shop and shoos him away. Later, he notices the dog is back again.

He walks over to the dog, and notices the dog has a note in his mouth. The butcher takes the note, and it reads, "Can I have 12 sausages and a leg of lamb, please." The butcher looks, and lo and behold, in the dog's mouth, there is a ten dollar bill. So the butcher takes the money, puts the sausages and lamb in a bag, and places it in the dog's mouth.

The butcher is very impressed, and since it's closing time, he decides to close up shop and follow the dog. So, off he goes.

The dog is walking down the street and comes to a crossing. The dog puts down the bag, jumps up and presses the crossing button. Then he waits patiently, bag in mouth, for the lights to change. They do, and he walks across the road, with the butcher following.

The dog then comes to a bus stop, and starts looking at the timetable. The butcher is in awe at this stage. The dog checks out the times, and sits on one of the seats to wait for the bus.

Along comes a bus. The dog walks to the front of the bus, looks at the number, and goes back to his seat. Another bus comes. Again the dog goes and looks at the number, notices it's the right bus, and climbs on. The butcher, by now open-mouthed, follows him onto the bus.

The bus travels thru town and out to the suburbs. Eventually the dog gets up, moves to the front of the bus, and standing on his hind legs, pushes the button to stop the bus. The dog gets off, groceries still in his mouth, and the butcher still following.

They walk down the road, and the dog approaches a house. He walks up the path, and drops the groceries on the step. Then he walks back down the path, takes a big run, and throws himself -whap!- against the door. He goes back down the path, takes another run, and throws himself -whap!- against the door again! There's no answer at the door, so the dog goes back down the path, jumps up on a narrow wall, and walks along the perimeter of the garden. He gets to a window, and bangs his head against it several times. He walks back, jumps off the wall, and waits at the door. The butcher watches as a big guy opens the door, and starts laying into the dog, really yelling at him.

The butcher runs up and stops the guy. "What the heck are you doing? This dog is a genius. He could be on TV, for God's sake!" To which the guy responds, "Clever, my eye. This is the second time this week he's forgotten his key!"

A Christmas Story: Mom Receives New Counter With Lots Of Local Help

Carol Prindiville of Haliburton has the counter of her dreams, and they even threw in the kitchen sink. This Christmas Gift was given to her by her two daughters, with the help of some pretty special volunteers.

It's a wonderful little Christmas story that all started a few months ago when Carol's daughters, Tara-Lyn, 13, and Jasmine, 15, showed up at Kitchen's Etc. in Haliburton. The two enthusiastic girls were determined to buy their mom a new counter for Christmas and told the owners that they were pretty sure they could save around \$100 by Christmas time. They wanted it kept a secret and they wanted to make it happen.

"We started looking around October for a new counter for mom," says Jasmine. "The old counter was cracking and wasn't too nice. Mom wanted one so we figured we'd buy it for her."

Kitchen's Etc. owner Mary Chvedukas and staff were very impressed by the girls. "They were so cute," says Mary. "They had no concept of the cost, they just wanted to do something nice for their mom. Here you have 13 - 14 year olds doing this for their mom. It's just so unselfish. It's a great example to other kids," she added.

Well, Kitchen's Etc. was so impressed by their ambition and desire to buy their mom a new counter that Mary and the staff went to work to make it all possible.

"We got others involved. We were determined to make this happen for the kids," says Mary. They enlisted the help of volunteers comprised of Mary and her husband Andy, employee Gail Loftus, plumber Tom Nicholson and installer Bill Ojen.

Now for the installation. This had to be carefully planned

so as not to spoil the surprise. All involved wanted to have the counter and sink in place before Carol could see it.



Carol works at Community Living and on Friday December 6 she headed off to her job as normal. Only this time when she arrived back home - her kitchen wasn't the way she left it.

"I was very surprised," she says. She actually arrived as the clean-up was taking place. They managed to distract mom, finished cleaning and ta-da... "When she came in we yelled surprise," says Jasmine. Jasmine and Tara-Lyn had pulled it off, thanks to all who helped

Kitchen's Etc. even threw in some cookies on a plate, nicely displayed

on her new counter and a big bow.

"I feel like I have a brand new kitchen," says Carol. "I can't believe they did this."

"They did a really good job," says Jasmine, adding, "I recommend anyone go there if they want a counter. They are really nice people."



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It may be cold outside, but we're filled with warm holiday wishes for you and your family. Season's Greetings from all of us.

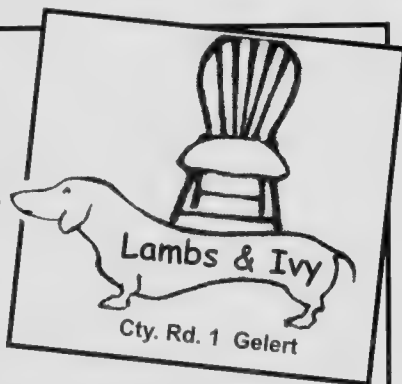
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**Wishing You & Yours
Happy Holidays!**



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BE WRAPPED IN WARMTH

Wishing you happiness this season and
in the coming year

Your patronage means a lot to us. And
we not only value you as a customer
but also as a friend.

The Pizza Den Staff



Merry Christmas!

Here's wishing you
a joyful holiday season!
Our sincere thanks for your patronage.

from everyone at
Kushog Construction

The Translator

Sainte Nuit (FRENCH)

Ô nuit de paix, Sainte nuit
Dans le ciel L'astre luit
Dans les champs tout repose en
paix
Mais soudain dans l'air pur et
frais
Le brillant coeur des anges
Aux bergers apparaît

Astro del ciel (ITALIAN)

Astro del ciel, Pargol divin,
mite Agnello Redentor!
Tu che i Vati da lungi sognar,
Tu che angeliche voci nunziar,
luce dona alle genti
pace infondi nei cuor!
luce dona alle genti,
pace infondi nei cuor!

Stille Nacht (GERMAN)

Stille Nacht! Heil'ge Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige
Paar.
Holder Knab' im lockigten
Haar,
I: Schlafe in himmlischer Ruh! :I

Noche de paz (SPANISH)

Noche de paz, noche de amor,
Todo duerme en derredor.
Entre sus astros que esparcen
su luz
Bella anunciando al niño Jesús
Brilla la estrella de paz
Brilla la estrella de paz

Quick Tidbit About Languages

Today, there are more than 2 700 different languages spoken in the world, with more than 7 000 dialects. In Indonesia alone, 365 different languages are spoken. More than 1,000 different languages are spoken in Africa. The most difficult language to learn is Basque, which is spoken in north-western Spain and south-western France. It is not related to any other language in the world. Mandarin is the **most spoken** language in the world, followed by English. But as home language, Spanish is the second most spoken in the world.

The "invention" of language is not known except for references in the Bible. It is not known what language Adam and Eve spoke. The first mention of different languages is the reference to the tower of Babel when different tongues were bestowed.

The invention of writing, however, is credited to the Sumerians of Mesopotamia in the 4th millennium BC. Their descendants, the Sumero-Babylonians, developed the time system that we use today: an hour divided into 60 minutes, which are divided into 60 seconds.

The Orgin of Silent Night, Holy Night

Perhaps the best known Christmas carol is Silent Night, written in 1818 by an Austrian assistant priest Joseph Mohr. He was told the day before Christmas that the church organ was broken and would not be repaired in time for Christmas Day. Saddened, he sat down to write three stanzas that could be sung by choir to guitar music. "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" was heard for the first time at that Midnight Mass in St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria. The congregation listened as the voices of the Fr. Joseph Mohr and the choir director, Franz Xaver Gruber, rang through the church to the accompaniment of Fr. Mohr's guitar. Today, Silent Night, Holy Night is sung in **more than 180 languages** by millions.

Multicultural Santa

He's Known by So Many Names...

In the United States and Canada, his name is Santa Claus.

In China, he is called Shengdan Laoren.

In England, his name is Father Christmas, where he has a longer coat and a longer beard.

In France, he's known as Pere Noel.

In Germany, children get presents from Christindl, the Christ Child.

In Puerto Rico, children receive gifts from the Three Kings on January 6th, also called the celebration of Epiphany, the 3 Kings' Day. Each child puts grass under their bed for the camels. In the morning the grass is replaced with gifts. Also, Puerto Rico, being part of the United States, does its major gift giving on December 25, with the Christmas Tree and Santa Claus - in this sense, Puerto Rico is totally Americanized.

Epiphany remains a part of the holiday season in Puerto Rico and is a day off from school.

However, the celebration of Epiphany is not just in Puerto Rico. Some nations say it is the 3 Kings who bring the toys, while others credit Baby Jesus, since it was He who received and wants to share.

In Italy Babbo Natale, which means Father Christmas, is Santa. Children put a pair of their shoes by the door on the day before Epiphany and the following morning they find them filled with small gifts and candy. Italy, like Spain, Portugal and most of the Latin American nations is mostly Catholic. December 25 is a day of more religious observance, remembering the birth of Christ. The Epiphany, called Little Christmas, is the day for gift giving. However, Babbo Natale does come on Christmas Eve in some parts of Italy.

In Spain children leave their shoes under the Christmas tree the night of January 5th and presents from the Three Kings (Los Reyes Magos: Melchor, Gaspar and Baltasar) appear the next morning. Santa Claus is called Papa Noel and some children receive presents both days on December 24th

(from Papa Noel) and on January 6th (from the Three Kings).

In Morocco he is known as Black Peter

In Japan, Santa Clause is called Santa Clause or just "Santa". Children often call him "Santa no ojisan," which means "Uncle Santa." (This information comes to you via the courtesy of Mr. Kazuo Miyasako of Dokkyo University.)

In Sweden Jultomten visits the evening before Christmas day, pulling a big bag of julklappar (Christmas presents) in the deep snow.

På Norsk (in Norwegian) "Julenissen" arrives on the evening of the 24th.

In the Netherlands, he is called Kerstman.

In Finland, he is called Joulupukki.

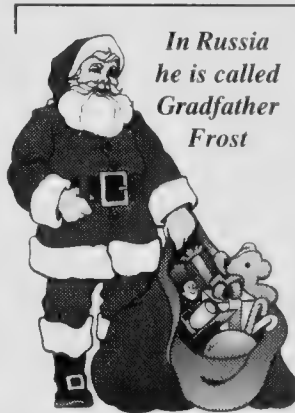
Sinter Klaas in Dutch. He rides a white horse,

leaving gifts in wooden shoes

In Russia, he is called Grandfather Frost that is "ded moroz" (the second "o" has its accent and the last "z" is pronounced as "s".)

He is also called Kris Kringle - which comes from the German term "the Christ Child" (Christ Kind).

The information in this little piece on Christmas customs around the world is as nearly correct as we can try. However, readers are encouraged to write with corrections, and to confirm any of the names for Santa.



Glory to Christ the King

May His love shine upon you in this holy season and throughout the new year

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Relax And Enjoy The Holidays

Wishing you a comfortable Christmas and a well-rested new year from all of us!



The Loonie Plus Store - Minden

Welcome the Holidays

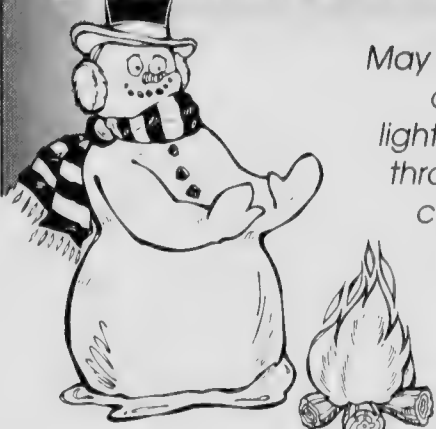
and welcome the fun, family and friends!



L.J. Fashions & Staff

Warm Wishes

May the warmth of Christmas light up your life throughout the coming year.



Haliburton County Home Support Services

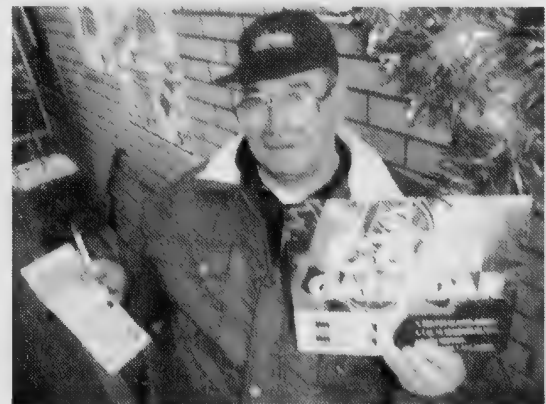
You Could Win \$5,000

Buy Your Ticket or Calendar For Your Chance At Great Prizes!

Want a chance at winning \$5,000? Then you best get this year's CNIB Cash Calendar quick before they are all gone. Bill Hartin of Haliburton is currently out and about selling both the cash calendars, and draw tickets loaded with great prizes donated by local area businesses.

The 2003 Cash Calendars are \$20 each and offer a 1 in 16 chance of winning some cold hard cash. There are three daily prizes for \$50. Every Saturday there is two draws for \$100, and at the end of each month there are four special draws for \$200. On March 30, there is one special draw for \$5,000.

The CNIB Haliburton Advisory Board Draw tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. The proceeds from this draw will be used to purchase CNIB Talking Books. The draw is being held on Feb. 14th at the Haliburton Home Support office. This draw offers the chance to win one of 29 great prizes donated by: Halco Radio Shack, Haliburton Home Hardware, Country Rose, Golden Stationers, Sir Sam's Ski Area, Out of Time Antiques, Haliburton Lumber, Curry Motors, Crafts & more, Highland Restaurant, Eagle Lake Store, West Guilford Store, The Echo, Monk Funeral Home, Lons Memorial, Minden Home Hard-



Bill Hartin holds the Cash Calendar & Draw Tickets.

ware, Kawartha Dairy, Varty's Gifts, McKeck's Place, Country Charm B & B, Iron Kettle, Lucky Taylor, Country Pickin's, Bull Frogs Bistro, Easton's ValuMart, Sir Sandford Fleming College, and the Wigamog Inn.

Bill is a familiar face when it comes to selling raffle tickets. He has volunteered for the job for many worthy organizations such as the Hospital Auxillary, Rotary, SIRCH and even the Kinmount Lions Club. For Bill, the CNIB cause is more personal as he has a daughter who is blind. Bill is also an active member of the CNIB Haliburton Advisory Board.

If you haven't stumbled across Bill who is out and about selling the Cash Calendars and Raffle Tickets, don't fear, you can still get yours by calling him at 457-1629.

Don't miss out on your chance of winning some great prizes.

Legion News

HALIBURTON



Cash Calendars Now On Sale

Legion Branch #129, Haliburton, has a great inexpensive gift idea for everyone. It's their 2003 Personal Day Planner/Cash Draw Calendar for only \$20.00.

This IS the gift that keeps on giving all year long because your number goes back into the draw no matter how many times you win. Daily draws are worth \$25 – Friday Draws are worth \$100 and there are two special bonus draws...one in the Spring and the other in the Fall. Both draws are worth \$500. Last but not least is the big New Year's Eve draw and that one is worth \$1,000. So, you have 365 chances to win for just \$20.

There is a total payout of \$14,800 for the year.

Celebrate New Years At The Legion

The Haliburton Legion invites you to come out and ring in the New Year with 'Northern Jam', a local band consisting of Bill Rinne, Neil Howe, Al Blanchard, Marilyn Giles, Audrey Sedley, Julie Howe and Ron Sedley.

Live entertainment begins at 9 p.m. There will be party favours, door prizes, spot dances and at 11 p.m. a hot and cold buffet will be set out. Champagne will be available for purchase at the bar. Everyone is welcome.

Tickets are on sale at the branch for \$35 per couple or \$20 single.

Merry Christmas To All

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and they hope to see you all very soon at the branch. Remember the Friday Meat Rolls, the New Year's Eve Dance, and the Calendar Draws. You could be a winner!

A big thanks to everyone that has supported the Legion all year long as they in turn support their Community in many ways all year long.

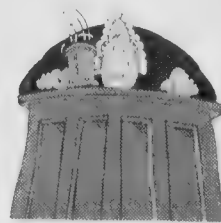
A reminder to 'Please Do Not Drink & Drive'. May everyone have a safe holiday.

Slide In For Holiday Savings

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Merry
Christmas



It's The Law!

An old law in Winnipeg declares that one may be fined for kissing a woman on the street.

It's against the law to saw wood on the streets of Toronto

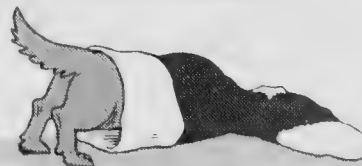
In British Columbia it is against the law to run a 3-legged race for money.

In St. John's Newfoundland there are strict laws governing the size of raisin bread. A loaf may weigh no more or no less than 1 1/4 lbs.

Paulmac's Pet Food

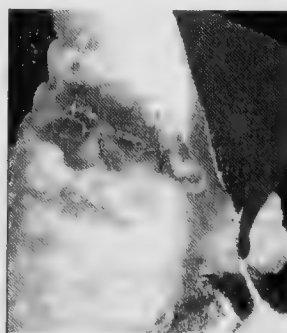
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Give a SPECIAL GIFT to a CHILD and their FAMILY....VOLUNTEER

For as little as 2 hours a week you can make a big difference in the life of a child with special needs. We are looking for volunteers to share your time and talents – after school, in the evenings or on weekends. There are lots of ways you can volunteer with children, including: taking a child on an outing in the community (skating, fishing, going to a movie), offering friendship and new experiences, helping with their homework, providing a positive role model and having fun!

We are presently looking for volunteers to help out in the following ways:

A delightful 5 year old girl in **Wilberforce** who likes crafts, reading and outdoor play would like to meet with a volunteer once a week to enjoy a community activity (example: CHACE

supper club on Wednesday evenings) or a visit to your home.

A shy 9 year old boy in **Haliburton** would enjoy spending time with a volunteer who is patient and understanding and who could help him with his homework and encourage him in social situations.

A 9 year old boy in the **Stanhope** area needs a positive male role model to build self-esteem, social skills and to be active outdoors with him.

Two brothers (age 7 and 9) in the **Minden** area with learning disabilities, need assistance once or twice a week after school with their homework and someone who would play outdoor sports with them.

All volunteers are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses and receive a travel allowance. If you would like to become a volunteer or you would like more information about our volunteer program, please call Marilou Mizzan, the Volunteer Coordinator at Family Services, 457-5345 extension 308. Make this Christmas the year you give a gift to a child that lasts a lifetime.

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Chamber Business Meetings Are A Hoot!



The Humbug BAH Business After Hours get together in December was held at Whispering Pines B & B, with refreshments by Frank's Delectables. Every month there is a Business After Hours get together hosted by a different business. For more information about the social gatherings contact the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce at 1-800-461-7677 or 286-1760. Pictured above are the Tri Vocals singing group who performed for all who attended this fun get-together.

If it's good news call 448-1847

Kushog Construction Shares The Christmas Spirit



At right is Kushog employees Ryan Woodard, Lenny McKnight, Greg Miller and Mike Klockhoff with owner Phil O'Reilly and his sons, Matthew & Shane - all holding toys that were donated to the 4-C's.

At right is Phil and wife Kelly & sons, donating toys to 4-C's director, Murray Tripp.



There are many ways to give to those who are in need at Christmas time, and Phil and Kelly O'Reilly of Kushog Construction have come up with a unique way to give while at the same time thank their clients.

For years the couple purchased gift baskets for their clients, but this year they have used the money that would have been spent on the gift baskets, and instead, have purchased toys donated to the 4-C Club to give to needy families. The toys are being donated on behalf of their clients.

"We got a thank you from the 4-C Club that we will be including in Christmas cards to our clients," says Kelly.

The couple ran this idea by a few of their clients who felt it was a wonderful idea.

Kushog Construction has been in operation for 15 years. Both Kelly and Phil were born and raised in the area and are well known to many.

Kelly & Phil's place is also an official drop off spot for the Carnarvon area for toys for the 4-H club. If you would like to make a donation of a toy you can call Kelly at 489-2192.

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Worldly



News

DRIVEN: Amanda Webster, 34, of London, England, couldn't get her car to start. "I noticed that part of the key was missing," said Keith Scott, who was dispatched by the auto club to help. He figured out that the missing bit was the transponder — a security device that won't let the car start unless it's detected near the keyhole. Webster's toddler, Oscar, had been playing with the keys. "Mrs. Webster told me that he had been sucking the key and we realized he might have swallowed part of it." Scott had her hold the baby up to the steering wheel to get the transponder near the detector and the car started right up. The transponder was "recovered" later. (London Telegraph) ...Yeah, great security — even a 1-year-old can start the car!

SEVERE HANGUP: The town council in Warringah, Australia, was upset that they could not block a cell phone company from putting an antenna on the top of a new lighting pole in a council-controlled park. After a legal challenge was denied, the council changed their tactics: hours before the scheduled installation they sent a man out with a chainsaw to cut it down. Council members tried to get the media to come cover the sawing, but for some reason they couldn't get their cell phones to work.

WARMEST WISHES

for good health & happiness to you & your family, and a Happy Holiday Season.



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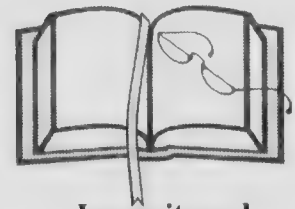


A time to love.
A time to share.
A time for peace.
A time to care.

May Christmas fill your family
with the glory of the season

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Lange On The Law



Lawsuits and Insurance



An insurance policy is a contract between you and your insurance company that protects you in two important ways. The policy will pay for your loss if your home is accidentally damaged by fire or by water pipes bursting. It will also pay for a lawyer to defend you if you are sued for a peril

that is covered under your policy, such as a slip and fall on your property.

If you are a tradesman with negligence insurance, your insurance company will also pay for a lawyer if, for example, you are sued because the roof of the building you worked on collapsed. In construction litigation, many trades are named as defendants but not all may be found to be negligent by the courts. Even if you think that you were not negligent, you must defend the lawsuit and the expense of a lawyer, which can be costly in this kind of litigation, will be paid by your insurance company.

An insurance company may refuse to pay for a loss or refuse to defend you on the basis that you were not insured for the peril. For example, your homeowner's policy may not cover you if you are running a business from your home and your customer slips and falls on your property. Where there is a refusal to cover you, you should consider suing your insurance company to dispute the policy. You must commence your lawsuit within one year after the loss occurs.

In the next column, I will be talking about lawsuits and land.



Have a Cuddly Christmas!

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friends to make this
Christmas one to
remember for ever!
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joys of this special
time of the year.

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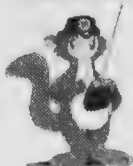
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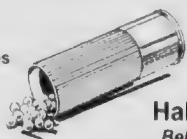
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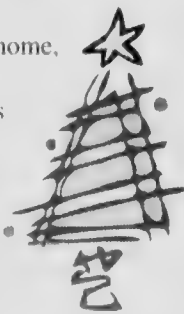
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Some Cool Christmas Tree & Turkey Facts You Might Not Know

Christmas Tree Facts:

- 1) Artificial trees will last for six years in your home, but for centuries in a landfill.
- 2) Since 1971, the Province of Nova Scotia has presented the Prudential Center tree to the people of Boston in gratitude for the relief supplies received from the citizens of Boston after a ship exploded in 1917 following a collision in the Halifax, Nova Scotia Harbor. Part of the city was leveled killing and injuring thousands.
- 3) 100,000 people are employed in the Christmas tree industry
- 4) In 2000 31 percent of United States household had a real tree, 49 percent had a fake tree and 21 percent had no tree. (I couldn't find numbers for Canadians, but this gives you an idea)
- 5) Christmas tree decoration was banned by the government. Tinsel contained lead at one time, now it's made of plastic.



- 6) Oregon produces the most real Christmas trees. In 2001, 8.3 million trees were harvested.

Let's Talk Turkey:

- 1) Fossil evidence indicates that turkeys roamed North America as long as 10 million years ago.
- 2) Canada has the 6th highest turkey production levels in the world.
- 3) Turkeys have an estimated 3,500 feathers at maturity.
- 4) The Guinness Book of Records states that the largest dressed weight (cooked, with dressing) recorded for a turkey is 39.09 kg (86 lbs) on December 12, 1989.
- 5) Before modern transportation methods, farmers in the British Isles would put leather shoes on their turkeys and walk them into town.
- 6) Most turkeys raised commercially are White Hollands which have all white plumage. The Bronze turkey was the chief turkey raised in Canada until the mid '60s.
- 7) Columbus thought that the turkey was a type of peacock. People in Sri Lanka call peacocks "tuka" (which really sounds like turkey). Columbus thought he was in a land connected to India when he arrived in America and some think that he may be the source of the name for turkey.

What, exactly, are the 12 days of Christmas?

The 12 days of Christmas are the 12 days that separate Christmas day on December 25 from Epiphany, which is celebrated January 6. Depending on the church, January 6 may mark Christ's baptism (the Catholic tradition), or it may mark the day that the wise men visited the baby Jesus with their gifts.

In the past, there was a tradition of giving gifts throughout the 12 days, rather than stacking them all up on the morning of December 25. That tradition, as you might imagine, has never really caught on in America! We just aren't that patient. The song, however, demonstrates that some people once stretched out their gifts (and gave some fairly elaborate gifts...) over the full 12 days.

Peace And Good Will To All

May you have a blessed holiday



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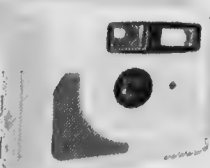


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SEASON'S GREETINGS!

Haliburton's Own Shirley Anne McCormick Releases New Book

Curl up this holiday season with a great new novel written by Haliburton's own, Shirley Anne McCormick.

Shirley has just released her second book of fiction, *'Seasons at Redstone Creek'*. The tale is one of struggle and adversity, change and growth, family and friendship.

This provocative story set in cottage country is told with warmth and humour. As with Shirley's first book that was published in 2000, the historical novella *'The Estate of Mrs. Pearl Whiteman'*, readers are saying, "I couldn't put the book down!"

Shirley says she is very happy with her new book. "So far the readers are saying they love it as much as the first one or better." She continues, "it has humour in it but also touches upon serious issues that are a part of many lives. I was unsure how people would like my new book in comparison to the first one as *'Seasons in Redstone Creek'* is modern. They loved the novella *'The Estate of Mrs. Pearl Whiteman'* but I wondered if it was because of its historical flavour, and it was a very special story." She admits, "I cried at different parts while I was editing it, and I already knew the story!"

With current reviews it's looking like both books are hits. "I am very pleased that people are liking both books. That is very satisfying," she says.

Shirley has been a resident of Haliburton for over 20 years. "I came up for a job and then stayed," she says, adding, "I love the beauty of the outdoors and the wilderness up here just like so many other transplants."

It was while living here that she found inspiration to take her love of writing to a different level. She explains, "I've written since I was a child but seriously for about 15 years. I was greatly inspired by the Haliburton Library when they held their Writers In Residence program back in 1987 I believe. Susan Swann also mentored several local writers over the summer. She was great."

Shirley has nothing but praise for our local library. "They do so much for the community," she says. "In the past when I was doing some research and seeking articles from around the continent, they were very helpful and found most of what I was seeking."

Her inspiration and love of the art led Shirley to continue writing and continue challenging her skills. "I write large fiction these days as it is a challenge and a huge undertaking, so maybe it is masochistic to say I enjoy it." She adds, "I also write poetry and find it very exhilarating and satisfying, creating pieces with intensity in just one page."

Shirley's educational background is environmental science. Her interest in the environment as well as the arts is satisfied by having an outlet in the Country Connection Magazine. "They have been very receptive to and supportive of my writing

in these areas," says Shirley.

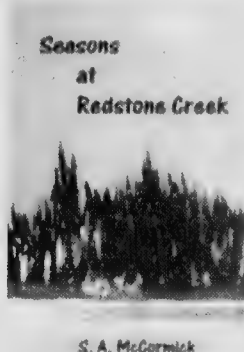
During the summer Shirley did a photo-essay of the sculptures and murals in Haliburton County which appeared in Country Connection Magazine. In other venue writing, she is the editor of the Canadian Authors

Association's newsletter, the National Newsline, and vice president of the Ontario Poetry Society.

To sum it up... well you can't... you just have to purchase Shirley's new novel and if you haven't already, pick up her previous works.

The novella *'The Estate of Mrs. Pearl Whiteman'* is currently experiencing renewed exposure in the international market. The author's first collection of favourite poems, most of which have been included in Canadian journals throughout the past decade, was also published this year in the book *'Days in Green and Blue'*. Her latest novel *'Season's at Redstone Creek'* is sure to delight readers who will be anxiously awaiting her next work.

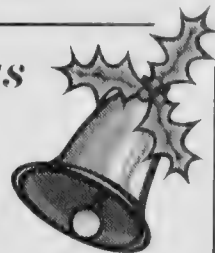
All three books are available online at www.cottagecountrybooks.com. They can also be found in selected local bookstores, some of which include: Under Cover Books, Haliburton; Gambell's Antiques, Minden; Whetung Ojibway Gallery, Curve Lake Reserve; Canal Bookstore, Bobcaygeon; Kent Book Store, Lindsay; Kerr's Corner Books, Campbellford; Titles Bookstore, Peterborough.



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The Eight Reindeer

Can you recite the names of Santa's eight reindeer? If so, you probably do it by recalling the first few lines of the 1949 song "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer":

*You know Dasher and Dancer,
and Prancer and Vixen;
Comet and Cupid,
and Donner and Blitzen . . .*

Although hardly anyone realizes it, two of those names are wrong when compared to the work that added eight (individually named) reindeer to the nascent Santa Claus legend: "A Visit from Saint Nicholas," first published in 1823.

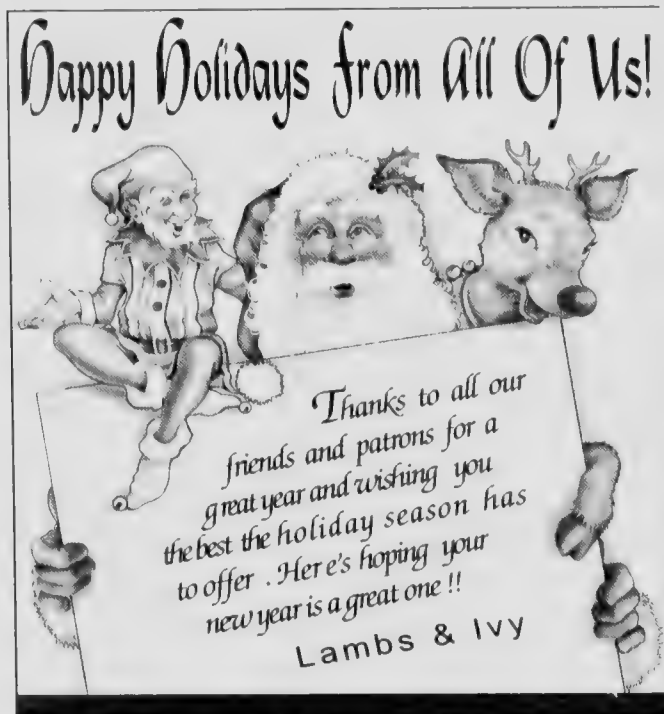
These are indeed the names that appeared in the original 1823 publication of "A Visit from Saint Nicholas":

*"Now! Dasher, now! Dancer, now!
Prancer, and Vixen,
On! Comet, on! Cupid, on!
Dunder and Blixem;*

Reindeer are ... Female?

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year (the only members of the deer family, Cervidae, to have females do so). Male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers until after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen . . . had to be a girl.

We should've known that when they were able to find their way.



The Orgin Of Santa

Many writers have been instrumental in designing the features of Christmas.

One of the most influential was Clement Moore whose poem, *The Night Before Christmas* "A Visit from St. Nicholas", which depicted an early nineteenth century American Santa Claus, one which endures for all generations.

Thomas Nast Paints First Santa

Thomas Nast, a well known and respected painter, found inspiration for his extremely popular painting of today's Santa Claus from Clement C. Moore's world famous poem,

The Night Before Christmas ("A Visit from St. Nicholas").

Thereafter no one could prevent the inevitable triumph of Moore's lovable Santa.

Thus Thomas Nast, a very real and now historical newspaper artist, was the VERY FIRST PERSON to paint the first definitive portrait of our present day Santa Claus in 1870.



**The Original Santa
Painted by Thomas
Nast.**



Merry Christmas

May the spirit of the Christ Child fill your heart
and bring you joy.

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Do you ever try to sing along with some of your favourite Christmas Carols, but darned if you know all the words? The Communicator is pleased to give everyone the Gift Of Music this season. The following pages contain the words to some of the more popular Christmas Carols. We hope you enjoy them and maybe even join in the singing now that you all know the words.

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for
his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down
his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on
the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby
awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying
he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look
down from the sky,
And stay by my side until
morning is nigh

White Christmas

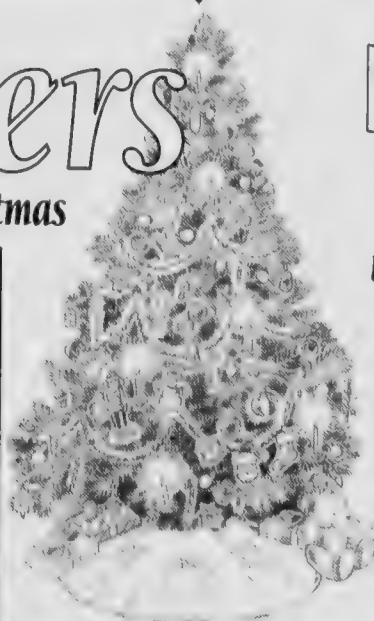
I'm dreaming of a white
Christmas
Just like the ones I used to
know
Where the tree tops glisten and
the children listen
To hear sleigh bells in the
snow

I'm dreaming of a white
Christmas
With every Christmas card I
write
May your days be merry and
bright
And may all your Christmases
be white

Cheers

To A Merry Christmas

Wishing all our
readers &
advertisers
a most happy
holiday season!



*We extend a sincere thanks to everyone
for making 2002 such a
wonderful year
for us. Best wishes for a
happy holiday season
and a terrific and prosperous 2003.*

*Joanne Welsh, Brett Irvine,
Diana Burns, Monica Horning, and families.*

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is
come,
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him
room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and
nature sing

Joy to the earth! the Savior
reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding
joy

No more let sins and sorrows
grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessing
flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth
and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His
righteousness,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His
love

Deck the Halls

Deck the halls with boughs of
holly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide
carol,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the
chorus,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
While I tell of Yuletide
treasure,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and
lasses,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.
Heedless of the wind and
weather,
Fa la la la la la, la la la la.



The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in
fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was
so deep:

Chorus
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the the East, beyond
them far;
And to the earth it gave great
light,
And so it continued both day
and night:

And by the light of that same
star,
Three wise men came from
country far;
To seek for a King was their
intent,
And to follow the star wherever
it went:

This star drew night to the
northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and
stay,
Right over the place where Jesus
lay:

Then did they know as-
suredly
Within that house the King did
lie;
One entered in then for to see,
And found the babe in
poverty:

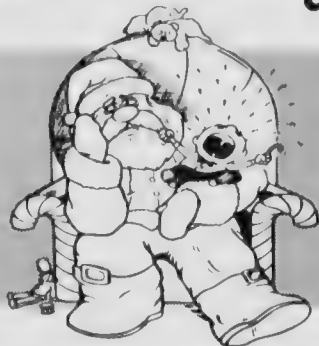
Then entered in those wise
men three,
Full reverently upon their
knee;
And offered there in his
presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and
frankincense:

Between an ox-stall and an ass
This child truly there born he
was;
For want of clothing they did
for him lay
All in a manger, among the
hay:

Then let us all with one ac-
cord
Sing prais-es to our heavenly
Lord.
That hath made heaven and
earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind
hath bought:

If we in our time shall do well,
We shall be free from death
and hell;
For God hath prepared for us
all
A resting place in general:

Warmest Holiday Wishes



Through each
moment of your
holidays, may
peace and
happiness be
yours.

from all of us
at
**Haliburton
Rent-all**

Happy Holidays



Hoping your
holiday season
is full of love
and laughter.
Our thanks
and best wishes
go out to all in
the community.

Dollo's IGA Minden

O Christmas Tree

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree!
How are thy leaves so verdant!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How are thy leaves so verdant!

Not only in the summertime,
But even in winter is thy prime.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
How are thy leaves so verdant!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

For every year the Christmas tree,
Brings to us all both joy and glee.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Much pleasure doth thou bring me!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!

Each bough doth hold its tiny light,
That makes each toy to sparkle bright.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Thy candles shine out brightly!

Blue Christmas

I'll have a blue christmas
without you;
I'll be so blue thinking
about you.
Decorations of red on a
green christmas tree
Won't mean a thing if
you're not here with me.
I'll have a blue christmas,
that's certain;
And when that blue
heartache starts hurtin',
You'll be doin' all right
with your christmas of
white.
But I'll have a blue, blue
christmas.



God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

God rest you merry,
gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's
power
When we were gone astray

Chorus:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heavenly
Father
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was
born
The Son of God by name
(Chorus)

"Fear not, then," said the
angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in
him
From Satan's power and
might." (Chorus)

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and
brotherhood
Each other now embrace:
this holy tide of Christmas
Doth bring redeeming grace.
(Chorus)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven
adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to
dwell;
Jesus, our Emmanuel! (Refrain)

Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of
Peace! (Refrain)

Come, Desire of nations come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Rise, the Woman's conquering
Seed,
Bruise in us the Serpent's head.
Adam's likeness now efface;
Stamp Thine image in its place;
Second Adam, from above,
Reinstate us in thy love.
(Refrain)



During The Holidays

We take great happiness in greeting
all our special friends and customers
this season. May your holiday be
filled with warmth and joy.

From Staff & Management of
Emmerson Lumber Ltd. &
Emmerson
Rent-All



HO, HO, HO...

and a merry Christmas
from all of us to all of you!
Thank you for your patronage
Happy New Year!

Henwoods Variety

Jingle Bell Rock

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell swing & jingle bell
ring
Snowing & blowing up bushel
of fun
Now the jingle hearts began

Jingle bell jingle bell jingle bell
Rock
Jingle bell chime & jingle bell
time
Dancing and prancing in jingle
bell square
In the frosty air

Wow! The bright tiem is in the
right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go gliding in a one-horse
sleigh

Giddy up - jingle horse pick up
your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and mingle in a jingling beat
That's the jingle bell jingle bell
jingle bell rock

Let It Snow!

Oh! the weather outside is
frightful
But the fire is so delightful
And since we've no place to go
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

It doesn't show signs of
stopping
And I brought some corn for
popping
The lights are turned way down
low
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!

When we finally kiss good night
How I'll hate going out in the
storm
But if you'll really hold me
tight
All the way home I'll be warm

The fire is slowly dying
And, my dear, we're still good
byeing
But as long as you love me so
Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it
snow!



Jingle Bells

Dashing thru the snow, in a one-
horse open sleigh
Over the fields we go, laughing all
the way
Bells on bob-tail ring, making
spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight. Oh

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh

A day or two ago, I thought I'd
take a ride
And soon Miss Fanny Bright,
was seated by my side
The horse was lean and lank,
misfortune seemed his lot
He got into a drifted bank
And so we got upset

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh

Now the ground in white, go it
while you're still young
Take the girls tonight, and sing
this sleighing song
Just get a bob-tailed bay, two
forty for his speed
Then hitch him to an open sleigh
And crack you'll take the lead

Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh
Jingle bells! Jingle bells! Jingle all
the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh



Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out
on the feast of Stephen,
when the snow lay round about,
deep and crisp and even.
Brightly shown the moon that
night,
though the frost was cruel,
when a poor man came in sight,
gathering winter fuel.

Hither, page, and stand by me.
If thou know it telling:
yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?
Sire, he lives a good league hence,
underneath the mountain,
right against the forest fence
by Saint Agnes fountain.

Bring me flesh, and bring me
wine.
Bring me pine logs hither.
Thou and I will see him dine
when we bear them thither.
Page and monarch, forth they
went,
forth they went together
through the rude wind's wild
lament
and the bitter weather.

Sire, the night is darker now,
and the wind blows stronger.
Fails my heart, I know not how.
I can go no longer.
Mark my footsteps my good
page,
tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
freeze thy blood less coldly.

In his master's step he trod,
where the snow lay dented.
Heat was in the very sod
which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be
sure,
wealth or rank possessing,
ye who now will bless the poor
shall yourselves find blessing.

We're Lifting Our Voices
*To our friends and neighbors, we'd
like to say "Thank You"
for all your support this year!*
**Merry Christmas
and a very happy 2003.**



See You
At The
Next
Open
Stage
Dec. 21

**The Hair Lounge &
The Trinity Centre** **489-3311
Carnarvon**

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see?
'Way up in the sky, little lamb
Do you see what I see?

A star, a star
Dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing thru the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?

A song, a song
High above the tree
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king
Do you know what I know?

A Child, a Child
Shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!
Pray for peace, people ev'rywhere
Listen to what I say!

The Child, the Child
Sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God,
Begotten, not created; Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest; Refrain

See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps;
Refrain

Child, for us sinners
Poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not live thee,
Loving us so dearly? Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing; Refrain

Little Drummer Boy

Come they told me
pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see,
pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring
pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
So to honor Him
pa rum pum pum pum,
when we come.

Little Baby
pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too,
pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring
pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you!
pa rum pum pum
on my drum.

Mary nodded
pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time
pa rum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him
pa rum pum pum
I played my best for Him
pa rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
rum pum pum pum
Then He smiled at me
pa rum pum pum pum
me and my drum.

Frosty the Snowman

Frosty the snowman
Was a jolly, happy soul,
With a corncob pipe and a button nose
And two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the Snow Man
Is a fairy tale, they say;
He was made of snow, but the children know
How he came to life one day.

There must have been some magic in
That old silk hat they found,
For when they placed it on his head,
He began to dance around.

Oh, Frosty the snow man
Was alive as he could be,
And the children say he could laugh and play
Just the same as you and me.

Frosty the snow man
Knew the sun was hot that day,
So he said, "Let's run and we'll have some fun
Now before I melt away."

Down to the village
With a broomstick in his hand,
Running here and there all around the square,
Sayin', "Catch me if you can."

He led them down the streets of town
Right to a traffic cop,
And he only paused a moment when
He heard him holler "Stop!"

For Frosty the snow man
Had to hurry on his way,
But he waved good-bye, sayin',
"Don't you cry,
I'll be back again someday."

Thumpety thump thump,
thumpety thump thump,
Look at Frosty go;
Thumpety thump thump,
thumpety thump thump,
Over the hills of snow.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Wishing Everyone A Holiday Filled With Song & Good Cheer!!

Joanne, Brett and Shawn -
The Highlands Communicator



What Child is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant king to own Him,
The King of kings, salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

*Raise, raise the song on high,
The Virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!*

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour, is born!
Christ the Saviour, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Rocking Around The Christmas Tree

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
At the Christmas party hop!
Mistletoe hung where you can see;
Ev'ry couple tries to stop.

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
Let the Christmas spirit ring!
Later we'll have some pun'kin pie
And we'll do some caroling.

You will get a sentimental feeling
When you hear
Voices singing "Let's be jolly.
Deck the halls with boughs of holly!"

Rockin' around the Christmas tree
have a happy holiday!
Ev'ryone dancing merrily
In the new old fashioned way!

Sleigh Ride

Just hear those sleigh bells
jingling,
ring ting tingling too
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with you,
Outside the snow is falling
and friends are calling "Yoo hoo,"
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with you.

Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap,
let's go, Let's look at the show,
We're riding in a wonderland of snow.
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap,
it's grand, Just holding your hand,
We're gliding along with a song of a wintry fairy land.

Our cheeks are nice and rosy
and comfy cozy are we
We're snuggled up together
like two birds of a feather would be
Let's take that road before us
and sing a chorus or two
Come on, it's lovely weather
for a sleigh ride together with you.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.

O holy Child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!



Christmas Thanks

Thank you for your continued patronage and friendship. We wish you the best in the years to come!

**From Everyone at
Village Court Pharmacy
Haliburton**



Winter Wonderland

Sleigh bells ring, are you
list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy
tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He sings a love song as we go
along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a
snowman
Then pretend that he is Parson
Brown
He'll say "Are you married?"
We'll say, "No, man!"
but you can do the job when
you're in town!"

Later on we'll conspire
As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid, the plans that
we made
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Sleigh bells ring, are you
list'nin'?
In the lane snow is glist'nin'
A beautiful sight, we're happy
tonight
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is the new bird
He's singing a song as we go
along
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

In the meadow we can build a
snowman
And pretend he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with
Mister Snowman
Until the older kiddies knock
'im down!

When it snows, ain't it thrillin'
Tho' your nose gets a chillin'
We'll frolic and play the Eskimo
way
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!
Walkin' in a winter wonderland!

Up on the House Top

Up on the house top reindeer
pause
Out jumps good old Santa Claus
Down thro' the chimney with
lots of toys,
All for the little ones, Christmas
joys

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

First comes the stocking of little
Nell
Oh dear Santa, fill it well
Give her a dollie that laughs and
crys
One that will open and shut her
eyes

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

Next comes the stocking of little
Will
Oh just see what a glorious fill
Here is a hammer and lots of
tacks
Also a ball and a whip that
cracks

Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Ho Ho Ho! Who wouldn't go
Up on the house top, click click
click
Down through the chimney with
old Saint Nick

Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be
forgot
and days of auld lang syne?
For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness
yet,
for auld lang syne

Silver Bells

City sidewalks, busy
sidewalks
Dressed in holiday style
In the air there's a feeling of
Christmas

Children laughing, people
passing
Meeting smile after smile
And on ev'ry street corner
you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the
city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas
day

Strings of street lights, even
stop lights
Blink a bright red and green
As the shoppers rush home
with their treasures

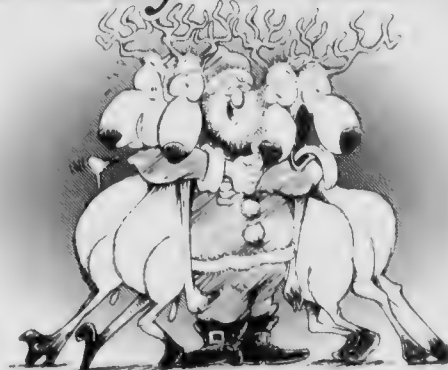
Hear the snow crunch, see
the kids bunch
This is Santa's big scene
And above all this bustle
you hear:

Silver bells, silver bells
It's Christmas time in the
city
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
Soon it will be Christmas
day

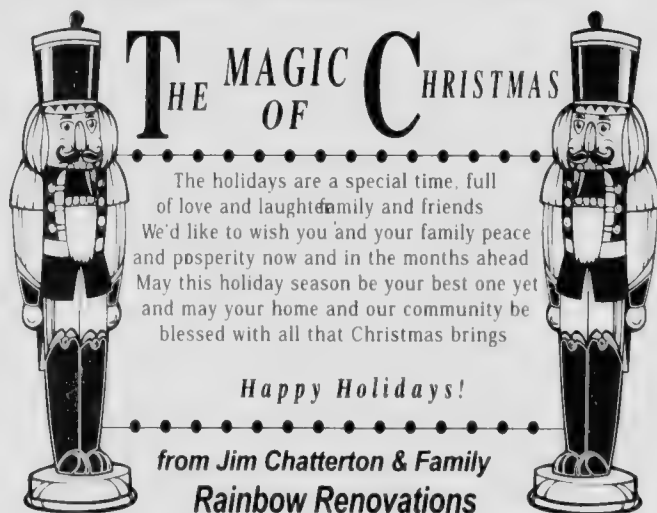
The Twelve Days of Christmas

On the 1st day of Christmas my
true love sent to me
A partridge in a pear tree
On the 2nd day of Christmas
my true love sent to me .
Two turtle doves
On the 3rd day of Christmas my
true love sent to me .
Three French hens
On the 4th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me .
Four calling birds
On the 5th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me
Five gold rings
On the 6th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me
Six geese a-laying
On the 7th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me . .
Seven swans a-swimming
On the 8th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me.
Eight maids a-milking
On the 9th day of Christmas my
true love sent to me..
Nine drummers drumming
On the 10th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me.
Ten pipers piping
On the 11th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Eleven ladies dancing
On the 12th day of Christmas
my true love sent to me...
Twelve lords a-leaping

Holiday Greetings



**Warm and friendly wishes for a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year**
Nigel & Gina Atkinson
Carnarvon Garage & Pine Reflections



THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

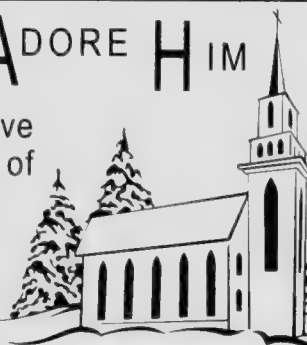
The holidays are a special time, full of love and laughter family and friends. We'd like to wish you and your family peace and prosperity now and in the months ahead. May this holiday season be your best one yet and may your home and our community be blessed with all that Christmas brings.

Happy Holidays!

from Jim Chatterton & Family
Rainbow Renovations

LET US ADORE HIM

Share the love and warmth of this special season with family and friends.



The Staff at
Westside Jug City

MERRY CHRISTMAS

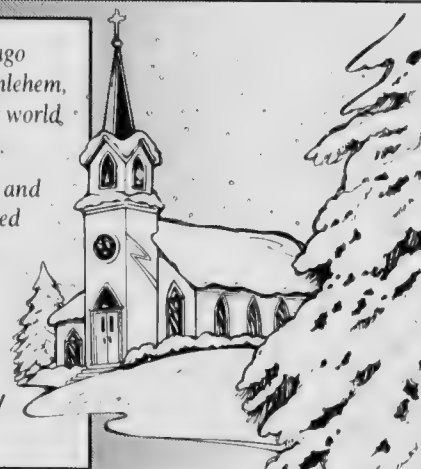
May your home be filled with the sights and sounds of Christmas and may your new year be a joyous one!

ANTIQUES & NEAT STUFF

In that long-ago night in Bethlehem, Jesus came into our world and into our hearts.

All of us wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a happy new year.

Mike, Kim & Staff at Varty's Jewellery & Gifts



Highland Cup Coming To Minden

Your Help Is Needed!

It will be a spectacular event that will not only be an excellent boost to our local economy but also an amazing boost to both the Haliburton Highlands Health Services and The Haliburton County Snowmobile Association. But, help and financial support is needed to make the Highland Cup a reality.

The Highland Cup planned for January 25 and 26 in Minden will feature professional snowmobile racing around an oval track with racers reaching speeds of up to 100 m.p.h. It's sure to be exciting, fast, eye opening, fist clenching, cheer-for-more excitement for all.

The event is being promoted far and wide and promises to bring many visitors to our area thus increasing the financial stability of our area. All remaining proceeds will be donated to our local snowmobile club and our local hospital fund. An event of this magnitude, although thrilling, does cost money to put on. Anyone who would consider contributing, to the association known as 'Haliburton County Special Events' would be deeply appreciated. There are sponsor packages available which offer great incentives. All financial donations will be met with a fully tax deductible receipt. "Anything anyone can give to help this event happen would be appreciated immensely," says organizer, Harold Foyster. "We're about half way there but we need more help," he adds.

A tremendous amount of work and planning have been put forth for this show, which promises to be amazing and definitely helps great causes with donations to the Health Foundation and Snowmobile Clubs – two very worthy recipients. So, if you can help in any way, no matter how small, please contact Harold Foyster at 457-2278.

There is a dance planned for the Saturday evening at the Minden Community Centre featuring live music from Ron Nigrini at Western Radio. "They're great. They play good ol' rock 'n roll. The good stuff. There's going to be door prizes too," says Harold.

Win Tickets To The Highland Cup!

The Communicator is giving away 5 pairs of tickets for this great up-coming event.

Send us your name, address and phone number with the words "I wanna go to the Highland Cup". The first five drawn will receive a pair of tickets!

Mail to: The Communicator, Box 332,
Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0

Yes Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus!

Where does the expression "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" actually come from?.. The following will explain... it is an actual copy of what appeared in the Editorial Page of the New York Sun in 1879....

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus
Editorial Page, New York Sun, 1897

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but

even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

Virginia cont'd... pg. 38 ...



Allelujah!

May the love and peace
from His Holy Spirit live inside
the hearts of you and the
ones you love this holiday
season and always.

Allan & Ellenor Bagg
Family & Staff

EAGLE LAKE
FOOD TOWN

PROUD TO BE YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Happy Holidays!



Jim, Janet
& Staff

Kosy Korner
Restaurant

The Legend of the Poinsettia

The legend of the plant we now associate so strongly with Christmas arose years ago in Mexico, where it was traditional to leave gifts on an altar for Jesus on Christmas Eve. As the story goes, among a group of worshippers one night was a poor boy that had no present. Upset by his inability to provide a gift, the boy knelt outside the church window and prayed. In the spot, where he knelt there

sprung a beautiful plant with vibrant red leaves. In Mexico this plant is called "the Flower of the Holy Night."

The first American ambassador to Mexico (1825-1829), Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett, was impressed by the vibrant plant Mexicans called "the Flower of the Holy Night." He brought it to America, where it was subsequently renamed in his honor. Today, Encinitas, California, is called the poinsettia capital of the world because of the large number of poinsettias found there..



Yes Virginia There is A Santa

... from pg. 37

Francis P. Church's editorial, "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus" was an immediate sensation, and became one of the most famous editorials ever written. It first appeared in the The New York Sun in 1897, over a hundred years ago, and was reprinted annually until 1949 when the paper went out of business.

Francis P. Church. was the son of a Baptist minister. He had covered the Civil War for "The New York Times" and had worked on the "The New York Sun" for 20 years.

Church married shortly after the editorial appeared. He died in April, 1906, leaving no children.

Virginia O'Hanlon went on to graduate from Hunter College with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 21. The following year she received her Master's from Columbia, and in 1912 she began teaching in the New York City school system, later becoming a principal. After 47 years, she retired as an educator. Throughout her life she received a steady stream of mail about her Santa Claus letter, and to each reply she attached an attractive printed copy of the Church editorial. Virginia O'Hanlon Douglas died on May 13, 1971, at the age of 81, in a nursing home in Valatie, N.Y.

Holiday Wish

A simple wish for
love and happiness
from all of us
to all of you!

Simply Sales

"Tomorrow's
Technology ...
Today"





Merry Christmas

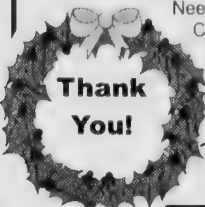
from the

Haliburton and District Lions Club

Your continued support allows us to keep the spirit of giving alive throughout the year.

Thanks to your generosity in 2002, we have been able to offer significant support to the following:

Vision Screening for Young Children • CNIB • CNIB Lake Joseph
Glaucoma Research • Guide Dogs • Lions Home for the Deaf
Recreational Programs • Local School Initiatives • Rails End Gallery
Diabetes Research • Lions Camp Dorset for Dialysis • Lung Association
Highland Games • Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation
Needy Families in Crisis • Long Term Care
Crohn's U Colitis Foundation • Lions Clubs Camp Kirk
Haliburton Santa Claus Parade • Hopice Care (SIRCH)
Summer Camp Opportunities • 4C's Food Bank



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Season's Greetings

286-1640 Minden

Don't Miss This Year's Snowarama

If you've got a snowmobile and want to help a great cause while having a great time, head out to the Annual Snowarama for Easter Seal Kids on Saturday, January 25 at the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve.

Participants can raise money through pledges from friends, neighbours, co-workers, etc. to help the kids. The day will consist of a 100-km snowmobile event on the groomed trails of the reserve. Registration is from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. - then the fun begins!

This event draws approximately 100 participants who in previous events have raised in the neighbourhood of \$20,000+ in pledges. Participants raising \$75 or more in pledges will receive a free lunch, free entrance, and a free tank of gas compliments of Sid Stamp Fuels of Minden.

There are a lot of incentives to participate, starting with a safety keychain with key light whistle to sportsbags, CD players, DVD players, digital cameras and even a Sony Home Theatre System or a Sony 24" Waga Flat Screen TV, depending on the pledges raised.

The annual event is sponsored by the Haliburton Rotary Club. It's an event they have been part of for over 20 years.

The Easter Seal Society helps children, youth and young adults with physical disabilities in many ways. Pledge forms are available at Emmerson Lumber, Haliburton Tim-br Mart, Curry Motors, Sid Stamp Fuels and other locations throughout your area. For more details call Greg Scheffee at 457-2510. So get your pledge form today and get ready for an awesome day of sledding on January 25.

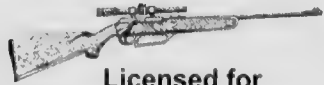
Calling All Snooker Players

All you snooker players, grab a partner and come on out and test your skill. Cash prizes and a day of fun awaits you at the Haliburton Legion on Saturday, January 18th for the exciting Snooker Elimination Tournament.

Entry is limited to 20 two-person teams. Entry fees of \$20 per team are all paid out in prizes.

Registration is at 10 a.m. and games start at 11 a.m. Food will be available.

Holiday Greetings from
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MERRY CHRISTMAS *



**MAY THE
MAGIC
AND
WONDER
OF THIS
SPECIAL SEASON
ENRICH YOUR LIFE
THROUGHOUT THE
COMING YEAR.**

From the Staff at Haliburton C.I.B.C.



SCHOOL NEWS FROM JDH

by the students  for the students!

by Tara-Lyn Prindiville



Holiday Spirit

December 19th is the J.D.H.E.S. Christmas concert of 2002. So far the choir, band, French emersion class, drama club, grade 5 classes and Mrs. Foulds' class are signed up to perform. The French emersion class, choir, grade 5's and Mrs. Foulds' class will be singing (the grade 5's will be singing French with Madame Flowers); the band will be playing Christmas tunes and the drama club will be presenting a play entitled *Confusion at the Pole*. Everyone is welcome. It is from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM.

Clubs & Activities

There are lots of activities at J.D.H.E.S.! Some of the newest are: Katie Huron's Ojibwa classes, indoor volleyball games and choir.



The Blessings of Christmas

May the peace, hope and joy of the
season be yours always.

**H & R Block
Central Office Supplies**

In Katie Huron's Ojibwa classes, you learn the Ojibwa crafts, stories and language. It's held every Thursday at lunch recess.

Choir is a group singing with Mrs. Reddering in the music room every Wednesday at lunch recess. Choir members often sing in special assemblies like the Christmas concert coming up or this year's Remembrance Day ceremony.

Indoor volleyball is hosted by Mrs. Griffith in the gym at lunch recess. Intermediates play on Wednesdays and juniors on Fridays. Each day it takes place, only the first 30 people to come into the gym get to play but once you go in the gym, you have to stay in there the whole lunch recess. To play you must have proper running shoes.

Some other clubs at the school include band, the school volleyball team, Edge ministries (a program for the worship of God) and the drama club.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Principal For a Day

On Tuesday December 3rd J.D.H.E.S.'s principal Mr. Burk stepped back for the day for the winner of the "principal for a day" school contest. Every grade eight student was given the opportunity to hand a letter explaining why they thought they should be principal for a day, and the winner was Karina King from class 8C. She got to take on many of the responsibilities of the principal, she even had to do yard duty! Congratulations Karina!

Teachers vs. Students

Teachers and students battled it out in a lunch time volleyball competition on Friday December 13th! The teachers played against both intermediate players and junior mix players and won both games! Better luck next time J.D.H. Jaguars!

Reminders & Notes

The J.D.H.E.S. Christmas Concert is Thursday December 19th at 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM!

Friday December 20th is red-green day for juniors (grades 4-6)

Friday December 20th is the intermediate dance (grades 7-8)

On January 8th there is a school council meeting, parents are welcome, it is in the library at 7:00

Christmas Holidays start on Saturday 21st and students go back to school on the 6th of January



Season's Greeting

*We're hoping the
beauty of the season
lasts all year for you.*

**Don Barker
Heating & Cooling**

The Origin of Boxing Day

December 26 was traditionally known as St. Stephen's Day, after the first Christian martyr. It is now more commonly known as Boxing Day. This expression came about because money was collected in alms-boxes placed in churches during the festive season. This money was then distributed to the poor and needy after Christmas.

It is thought the Boxing Day was first observed in the Middle Ages. It found renewed popularity in the 19th Century when the lords and ladies of England presented gifts in boxes to their servants on 26 December in appreciation of the work they had done over the Christmas celebrations.

If 26 December falls on a Saturday or Sunday, Boxing Day takes place on the Monday.

**Give to
those in
need by
purchasing
a food bag!**

If you would like to help those less fortunate this season, you can purchase food bags at local grocery stores for the food bank. Pictured is Minden Valu-mart owner Linda Easton and Pat Pierson with a food bag.



Here's hoping your
holiday is filled with fun
and excitement.

Hwy 118 5 km
west of
Haliburton at
Cty. Rd. 14

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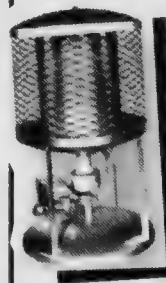


The Origin of Holly

In ancient times holly was thought to be magical because of its shiny leaves and its ability to bear fruit in winter. Some believed it contained a syrup that cured coughs; others hung it over their beds to produce good dreams. Holly was a popular Saturnalia gift among the Romans. The Romans later brought holly to England, where it was also considered sacred. In medieval times, holly, along with ivy, became the subject of many Christmas songs. Some of these songs gave the holly and ivy sexual identities (holly is male, ivy female), while other, more religious songs and poems portray the holly berry as a symbol of Christ.

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Try Snowmobiling - We Have Access To 580 km of Trails!

by Diana Burns

Ask any snowmobiler what they like most about the sport and you get a multitude of comments. Some love the speed while others appreciate the beautiful scenery but almost always you'll hear "I do it for the fun of it," and there is lots of fun to be had on our very own local snowmobile trails.

The Haliburton Snowmobile Association was formed in 1971 with the culmination of five clubs and overseen by President Pat Waddell. It had one groomer and consisted of one hundred and ninety-three kilometers of trails. In 1980 trail permits were introduced at a cost of fifteen dollars each. Four hundred and fifty members acquired permits that year. By 1982 there were five hundred kilometers of trails and by 1985 the club's membership and permit holders grew to one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five. In 1988 the club amalgamated with the O.F.S.C. and they remain with them today. This organization is completely run by volunteers with the assistance of two full-time paid staff. Bob Johnson, the club's current president reports that "There are approximately thirty-one people involved in the association volunteering their time performing such duties as trail grooming, building bridges on trails and serving on the executive committee."

The current annual number of permits being sold has reached three thousand. Each year the association offers a savings on the purchase of memberships. Members who buy their passes before December 1 pay only one hundred and forty dollars, those who purchase permits after that date pay one hundred and seventy dollars. Permits are purchased per machine and not per rider.



Pictured are Guard Campbell and Peter Overington. The continuity of the club owes much to their unflagging efforts.

There is currently access to five hundred and eighty kilometers of snowmobile trails, which are marked with directional, speed, and stop signs. The club will be upgrading and adding new signs over the next three years.

The club also publishes a map outlining all the trails in the region, which is free to the public and can be picked up at the Haliburton Chamber of Commerce and at locations where permits are sold. Private land owners have been very cooperative in permitting riders access to trails that cross through their property and the club appreciates this privilege and hopes that riders do the same.

During the snowmobile season, the club offers a driver education program to anyone age twelve and up by instructor Dave Freeman. The program is offered in three six and a half hour in-class sessions, usually on weekends, at a cost of thirty-six dollars per person. The maximum number of students per



Wilma and Norm Gemmell, two of the founding members of the club, being presented with a cake to honour their years of service to the HCSA. They are retiring from active participation this year.

class is twenty and the fee includes lunch and instruction materials.

The association is also responsible for its warden program, which places Stop Officers on trails to monitor riders and verify permits. These officers work in conjunction with the O.P.P. and can be found at anytime setting up spot checks on the trails. The club also helps out with the annual dog sled race. They assist by grooming the trails and rerouting snowmobilers.

Bob advises that the trails are currently being groomed but the ground is not completely frozen yet and riders should refrain from riding on them yet. What is needed is a few days and evenings with below freezing temperatures and a couple of heavy snowfalls to make conditions suitable to fully open all trails.

To obtain more information regarding the snowmobile club, contact Bob Johnson at 457-4263 or check out their website at www.hcsa.on.ca To register for the next driver education session, contact Dave Freeman at 754-3312.

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Love
Family
Friends

May your heart and home
be filled with the glow

Guardian

Highland Pharmacy
Staff



HEALTH

Beauty
Wellness
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RESOLVE TO BE HEALTHY IN 2003

Make Gains By Rethinking 'Vague' Weight-Loss Goal For The New Year

Area residents who resolve to be healthier in the New Year should try a new approach to get to where they want to be in 2003. Instead of "vague promises to lose weight, cut back and exercise more" in the New Year, a local dietitian suggests making healthy lifestyle choices that have a chance of surviving beyond January 2nd.

"I think a lot of times the food we enjoy over the holidays comes back to haunt us," says Rosie Kadwell, a Public Health Dietitian with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit. "We're 'guilted' into setting unrealistic weight-loss goals for the New Year that are quickly put away like holiday decorations, only to be unpacked next season."

To break the cycle, Kadwell says people are further ahead if they use a "3 Rs" approach – realistic, rationale and rewarding – to setting healthy resolutions for the New Year. This approach doesn't mean stopping them from enjoying what the holidays have to offer, she adds.

Here's how:

Change the view of holiday eating.

Take the focus off the short holiday season and put it onto the rest of the year. Healthy eating is not about one food, meal, day or even week. It's about establishing a healthy eating pattern over time. So it's the other 51 weeks of the year that really count. Adopting healthier habits throughout the year means you'll be able to enjoy traditional holiday fare without the guilt.

Don't fall into the January diet trap.

Weight-loss ads offering quick fixes seem to escalate in January at the very time that people are most vulnerable to them. Years of scientific research along with real-life experience prove that diets simply don't work. No matter what fancy package they're in, weight-loss diets involve reducing calories to levels that are often far below what people need to be healthy. The human body responds by conserving calories at all costs. It's not difficult to understand why most dieters gain the weight back when the diet inevitably ends.

Focus on health not weight.

In today's society, thinness is often pursued in the name of health. The truth is that there is a range of weights that are healthy for any given height. In fact, the pressure to be thin can actually be damaging to physical and mental health, often leading to a negative body image and low self-esteem, and can even contribute to eating disorders. Focusing on health rather than weight allows people of all shapes and sizes to achieve their healthy lifestyle goals.



HO! HO! HO!
Merry Christmas

Wayne & Joy

The
Storeroom



natural foods

TRY IT
IT'S YOUR MOVE

Tai Chi Classes

Wednesdays at noon starting January 8 for one hour at Hyland Crest Auditorium/Minden Hospital. Come and try it - **First class free!** Then pay only \$20 for the next 11 weeks or \$10 for six weeks. All money goes to charity.

Taught by Logie McDonnell, a qualified Taoist Tai Chi Instructor. Suitable for all ages and mobility/abilities. Movements can be performed from a chair.

To register or for more information call Logie at 457-5263.

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Holiday Heartburn or GERD?

It seems to happen every year...you eat just a bit too much of the turkey, enjoy that extra piece of pumpkin pie, or indulge in a second portion of yams. Hours later, the heartburn sets in.

As you reach for your usual over-the-counter remedy, however, the International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD) wants you to take stock of your symptoms. Chronic heartburn can often be a symptom of something far more serious-GERD.

Gastroesophageal reflux disease, or GERD, affects an estimated five to seven percent or more of the global population-men, women, and children. GERD occurs when acidic contents flow back into the esophagus from the stomach causing reflux. Although common, GERD often is unrecognized-its symptoms misunderstood. This is unfortunate because GERD is generally a treatable disease.

Serious complications can result if it is not treated properly.

All too often, GERD is either self-treated or mistreated "GERD is a chronic disease. IFFGD continues to work hard to get the message out that it is treatable and can be controlled. But that can only happen if we spread the word on what this disease is and how to recognize the symptoms," said IFFGD President Nancy Norton.

Simple heartburn is common. But heartburn that occurs more frequently than once a week, becomes more severe at night or wakes a person from sleep, may be a sign of a more serious condition, like GERD, and consultation with a physician is advised. Even occasional heartburn-if it has occurred for a period of five years or more, or is associated with difficulty in swallowing-may signal a more serious condition.

According to IFFGD, only a physician can make a diagnosis and provide treatment for GERD. Over-the-counter preparations provide only temporary symptom relief. They do not prevent recurrence of symptoms or allow an injured esophagus to heal.

"This disease is often manageable once a patient realizes the need to get medical treatment and understands the difference between heartburn and GERD symptoms," Norton added. "Effective treatment for GERD will bring the symptoms under control so that you can feel better and can carry on a normal life."

A physician's care for GERD will also heal the esophagus of inflammation or injury and will manage or prevent serious medical complications. Treatment options include lifestyle modifications, medications, surgery, or a combination of methods. For more information, visit www.IFFGD.org.

Holiday time or any time, it's wise to be aware of the dangers of GERD.



Join us in recognizing our community partners who contribute so much to Health for Life:

Aileen Bruce, Volunteer - Organizing and running aquafit classes for adults

Logie Macdonnell, Volunteer - Organizing and running Tai Chi classes for adults

Barrie Martin, President Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network - Development and promotion of area trails

Cindee St. Pierre, Volunteer PoWeR Link - Promoting positive self-image in young women

Rawn Loughheed, Volunteer PoWeR Link - Promoting positive self-image in young women

Sheila Shaw, Archie Stouffer School Council - Promoting physical activity for school children

Thom Lambert, Volunteer - Facilitating the development of the Head Lake Disc Golf Course

Greg Shantz, Family Services of Haliburton County - Facilitating the development of the Head Lake Disc Golf Course

Steve Johnson, Student Volunteer - Facilitating the development of the Head Lake Disc Golf Course and assisting with the Cycling Skills Workshop

Paula Pepping, YWCA - Co-ordinating the Good Food Box program

Patti Lou Robinson - Organizing the Healthy Lunches program

June Stewart, Health for Life Steering Committee - Promoting adult swimming

Wendy Bateman, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario - Health for Life Steering Committee

Mary Hamilton - Health for Life Steering Committee

Dott and George Heath, Diabetes Support Group - Health for Life Steering Committee

Sean Pennylegion, Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network - Cycling Skills Workshop - Project Launch

Kimberly Hicks, Registered Dietitian - Nutrition Working Group

Janice Lewis, Registered Dietitian - Nutrition Working Group

Roy Hoare, Health for Life Steering Committee - Lungs for Life Program

Ron and Sheila Stackhouse, Millennium Lifestyles - Workplace/adult physical activity promotion

Karen Phipps, School Nutrition Program - development of the snack booklet

**Health for Life**
Taking Action for Healthy Living

Professional Recruitment Task Force Created to Find More Doctors.

HHHS recognizes the need to recruit more physicians to the community, and have spearheaded a Task Group to organize efforts for the region. With a loss of physicians to the community, there will also be a loss to the economy. People move away, or do not come to the Highlands if physician services are not available. Presently, Minden and Haliburton have more patients than doctors to look after them. Other regions are offering incentives to attract doctors. Members of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, the Chamber of Commerce, and County representatives attended a recent meeting, and plan to meet again in January to discuss incentives and other methods to recruit and retain physicians.

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Sleepy After Turkey?

Some people think they feel sleepy after a roast turkey dinner. Turkey contains many of our essential dietary amino acids. One is called L-Tryptophan. One of the first amino acids to appear as a supplement in the early marketing wave of exotic nutrients, it was billed as a natural sleep aid. It is involved in the production of serotonin, a neurotransmitter. Serotonin may reduce certain pain reactions and have a tranquilizing effect. Starchy foods such as potatoes and stuffing are high in carbohydrates which contain L-Tryptophan.



HEALTHY RECIPES

Submitted by the HKPD Health Unit



How to make canned soups healthier? Just Add Vegetables...

Try the following ideas when using canned soups (10 oz. (284 ml.) & complete your meal with toasted whole wheat bread and a piece of fruit.

Cheese soup

Microwave $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 cup of broccoli or cauliflower with one tablespoon of water for 3 to 4 minutes; or add enough water to cover vegetables and cook over stove. Keep the cooking water and mash vegetables with a fork or blender until smooth. Use skim milk. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of milk if using $\frac{1}{2}$ cut of water for vegetables or add $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of milk if using $\frac{3}{4}$ cups of water for vegetables.

Chicken noodle or chicken rice soup

Add $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 cup of frozen mixed vegetables or leftover cooked vegetables

Mushroom or celery soup

Make with skim milk and add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of chopped cooked potatoes and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of corn kernels. Chop a drained can of baby clams and add to soup to make clam chowder.

Tomato soup

Make with skim milk and stir in $\frac{1}{2}$ cup to 1 cup of chopped fresh tomatoes and sprinkle some basil (or add 1 to 2 tbsp of fresh chopped parsley). Add grated light Cheddar or Parmesan cheese to get more calcium.

Vegetable or noodle soups

Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup to 1 cup of canned or cooked kidney beans, black beans, navy beans or lentils.

Have Yourself a Merry Christmas

and a Happy New Year, too!

Thanking all our friends and patrons for
a wonderful year and wishing them the
best this holiday season has to offer.

May all your dreams
come true.

Barb Wright, Physiotherapist
Jacqueline Ziorjen RMT

*Of Sound
Body*

'Tis The Season To Be Safe

Winter brings colder temperatures, snow, and the holiday season, making it an ideal time to travel or participate in such activities as skiing, snowboarding or ice-skating. Unfortunately, the pain resulting from injuries can sometimes overshadow the enjoyment of participating in these common activities.

Here are a few tips that may help prevent injury and pain:

• **Skiing/Snowboarding:** The key to preventing injury is proper conditioning, which can be accomplished through aerobic exercise and strength training, as well as stretching. Stretching allows the muscles to work more efficiently, helping to reduce the risk of injury in the event of a fall. Snowboarders also should wear wrist guards made for snowboarding, use the right

equipment and wear a helmet, which is particularly important for beginners.

• **Holiday Driving:** "Over the river and through the woods" can spell lower back pain for many drivers. To minimize strain, properly align your seat and elevate the headrest until it is directly behind the back of your head. Good posture also is important-sit straight against the back of the seat; and don't sit too far back-reaching for the steering wheel or pedals puts strain on the spine. Frequent breaks-stretching and walking every one to two hours can also help reduce back strain.

• **Shoveling Snow:** Shoveling snow can be a real pain in the neck, back, shoulder and wrist. To reduce your risk of injury, shovel early and often (new snow is lighter); push the snow rather than lifting it, but if lifting the snow is necessary, be sure to lift with your legs, bending properly at the knees, with your legs apart and back straight; don't throw snow over your shoulder or to the side, twisting motions put strain on your back; and pace yourself-take breaks if you're tired.

• **Ice Skating:** Ice skating and falling go hand in hand. Taking a lesson on how to fall safely and correctly can greatly decrease the risk of injury, including wrist fractures, the most common injury. Being in shape and having the proper equipment also can help to reduce injuries.

Despite your best efforts, injuries can occur, and may lead to persistent pain. But you don't have to miss out on winter activities; there are things you can do to manage your pain. Speak with your physician for help in determining a pain management program that is appropriate for you. While treatment programs will vary, based on the individual and the type and intensity of the pain, a program that includes both non-drug treatments and medication is recommended. Non-drug treatments may include heat, cold/ice, massage, acupuncture and physical therapy. Stretching and strengthening activities, as well as low-impact exercises, also can help reduce pain. The most common types of pain medications are aspirin, acetaminophen, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and opioids.

For additional information about pain management, consult with your doctor or a pain specialist. Also, the Partners Against Pain Web site, www.partnersagainstpain.com, is a valuable resource for pain management information.

Prevent injury and pain so you don't miss out on winter activities.

Outstanding Participants in Workplace Healthy Living Promotion

Sponsored by Health for Life and Millennium Lifestyles

The following individuals were moderately active for 30 minutes on most, if not all, days of the week for 16 weeks.



Congratulations!

Bernie Nicholson, Job Connect - 96 points
Harry Rodley, MDS Labs - 96 points
Marina Maughan, Access Centre - 96 points
Leith Clarke, Access Centre - 95 points
Jean Heathcote, Access Centre - 95 points
Anne-Marie Cyr, HKPRD Health Unit - 94 points
Anne McCracken, HKPRD Health Unit - 92 points
Tracy Burke, Access Centre - 91 points
Alison Logan, Job Connect - 91 points
Beth Johns, YWCA - 90 points
Debra Henry, Let's Go Travel Plus - 90 points
Norris Turner, Family Services - 89 points
Kris Kadwell, HKPRD Health Unit - 89 points
Marg Graham, HKPRD Health Unit - 88.5 points
Rene Benoit, Dr. Benoit's office - 87.5 points
Bob Heyes, Haliburton Family Medical Centre - 87 points
Susan Kellar, Ethel Curry Gallery - 84.5 points
Linda Emmerson, The Echo - 84.5 points
Charlene Pearsell, MDS Labs - 84 points
Cathy Lucas, MDS Labs - 84 points
Debbie Watson, Access Centre - 84 points
Sharon Wells, Village Court Pharmacy - 83.5 points
Rosie Kadwell, HKPRD Health Unit - 83 points
Sharon Lynch, Family Services - 81 points
Stacey Bunn, Emmerson Lumber - 81 points



Deck The Halls!

Hope your holidays are
jolly and filled with fun!
Season's Greetings from
all your friends at



**Curves For
Women**





For Your Eyes Only

by Lance Edwards

News About Progressives

Most people are familiar with progressive power lenses, sometimes referred to as the bifocal with no lines. Now there are many styles available in these lenses, offering different designs for near, intermediate or distance viewing. This means a greater variety of visual needs can be accommodated.

Of equally important news is that the progressive lens is now available in a thinner and lighter weight for those people who have had to wear heavy "coke bottle" lenses.

For those who desire a lens which will make a transition from light indoors to darker outdoors, the plastic progressive lens is also available in this style. Here's a plastic lens that will change from a light-tint indoors to a darker comfort lens outdoors, although it should not be confused with true sun lenses or photochromic lenses that change.

Stop and think a minute about the vision task requirements of your job ... your recreation. There are many new lens technologies that enables us to choose from a variety of ways in which we can fill your prescription.

See the eyewear professionals at :



Lower Level - Stedmen's Mall
Hours: Tues - Fri - 9:30 - 5:30
Sat: 9:30 - 3:00
Eye Examinations Arranged



Lance Edwards



What a Christmas Gift!!

The Haliburton County Home Support Services was recently presented with a cheque for \$23,200 from the Trillium Foundation. The money will be used to help increase organizational capacity by recruiting and training volunteer ambassadors who will support fund raising efforts.

The funding comes from the proceeds of the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp.

Pictured above are, left to right: Peter Forgrave (local grant review team volunteer with Trillium), Donna McDonald, Roxanne Casey and Bob Mitchell from HCHSS.



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Christmas Funnies...

Where does Frosty the Snowman keep his money?

In a snow bank.

What kind of food do you get when you cross a blizzard with a polar bear?

A brrr-grrr! (burger)

How does Santa Claus take pictures?

With a North Pole-roid camera.

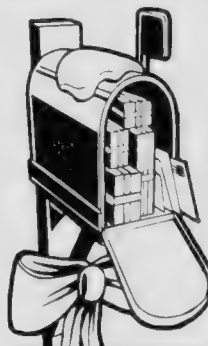
What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

It's Christmas, Eve!



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Experience Nature A New Way - Try Dog Sledding!

What to try something exciting and different this winter? Why not experience the thrill of driving your own dog team, or snuggling down wrapped in a cozy fleece blanket in a comfortable, padded sled to view the beauty of the Haliburton Highlands.

Or, maybe you are looking for that perfect gift for someone who has everything. Why not dogsledding? This is all possible right here in Haliburton County thanks to Winderdance.

Winderdance is a dog sled tour company that operates out of Haliburton, and is owned and operated by husband and wife team Hank DeBruin and Tanya McCready-DeBruin. Tours are run on a trail system right out of their kennel and on a large piece of private property on Blue Heron Trail Road (close to Redstone Lake). The kennel is located about 15 minutes north of Haliburton and is situated on 55

acres of forested land overlooking Drag lake.

Tanya & Hank currently have 80 dogs, all pure breed Siberian huskies.

This year marks the couples 4th year in business. "It all started with one dog I got as a pet when we got married," says Tanya. Their first dog was named Colt. Then came more dogs. Once they had four they started dog sledding as a hobby. "Once we had four dogs

we did it for fun. We always had friends who wanted to go for rides," says Tanya.

The couple wanted to move from the city, and immediately started looking north for a place to set up a dog sled business. They originally were going to buy an existing business in Dwight, but at the last minute the owner decided not to sell. "We decided to start from scratch and we decided Haliburton was our choice," explains Tanya. "Once we saw this place, the decision was easy."

After four years, the business has grown such that they can operate 15 teams at a time. There are anywhere from 4 - 6 dogs per team, depending on the run booked. For example, there are 4 dogs for the 1 hr runs, 5 for half-day runs, and 6 for full-day runs.

Tanya says the experience of dog sledding is hard to describe and really should be tried. "There is a silence - you're close to the snow - you're being a part of wilderness, not intruding on it, and you're part of the team."

It is recommended that you book a couple weeks in advance if you are planning a weekend run. For mid-week runs you

need only book a couple days in advance.

Winderdance offers various packages to suit people who just want a taste of dogsledding to people looking for a more complete experience and even people looking for romance! The following is the various packages available:

One Hour Tour

They will instruct you in the basics of dogsledding, including how to harness a dog and hook them to the sled, and how to drive a team of 4 Siberian Huskies. You will actually be on the trail for approximately 30-40 minutes. Reservations highly recommended!

Price: \$50 per person + G.S.T.

1/2 Day Tour

By far their most popular tour as you really get an opportunity to know your dogs and get a true feel for handling a sled! These trips are run out of the Blue Heron Road Trail system, and offer a variety of trail conditions, including challenging rugged, forested terrain, and a small lake system. The trip includes a stop midway for a snack and warm beverages (provided). They offer 2 of these tours every day with the instruction sessions starting at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. After instructions you will be on the trail for approximately 2 1/2 - 3 hours.

Price: \$105 per person + G.S.T.

Full Day Tour

The full day tour starts around 9:00 a.m. with an instruction period of approximately 1/2 hour, you will get a chance to harness your own dogs and hook them up! They will go into far more detail on dogsledding techniques, styles, etc. than in the shorter trips. You will then head out on the trail for the day, stopping for morning and afternoon snacks (for people and dogs) and taking a layover at noon to have a hot cooked lunch by a roaring campfire (all food is provided and they guarantee you *won't* leave hungry).

Price: \$175 per person + G.S.T.

Moonlit Tour

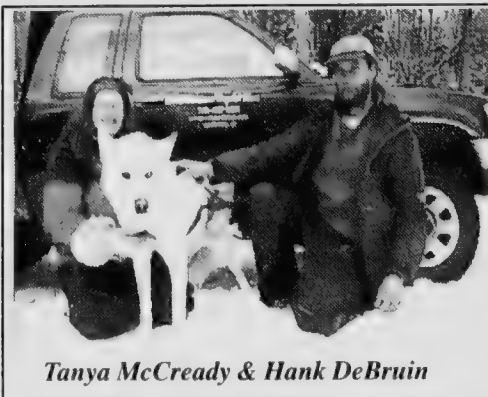
Dogsledding at night is truly an incredibly moving experience and one that is impossible to put into words. The trips will start around 7:00 p.m. with brief instructions. You will then hit the trail for about 30 minutes until you reach a clearing with a roaring fire.

Price: \$95 per person + G.S.T.

Overnight Tours

These trips can include a combination of full day runs with overnight accomodation at local resorts & inns. These trips require reservations and detailed planning and prices will be determined based on the client's individual requests and desires. **Price:** dependent on clients requirements

For information or to book a run, call 457-5281



Tanya McCready & Hank DeBruin



Ice Races Return to Minden Starting January 11

This event is a must see for all ages. It's fast action with lots of thrills, oooh's aaah's, laughs and excitement. It's the annual Ice Races held at the Minden Fairgrounds, beginning in January.

The Ice Races are FREE to attend and are held every weekend. Races get underway every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday's at 12:00 p.m.

Keep in mind weather conditions – no snow, or if everything is mild and slushy, the race may be cancelled that weekend. If the weather is good – then head on out – it is an event you won't want to miss!

The races are sponsored by the Minden Kinsmen Club. Organizer, Tom Prentice of Minden first stumbled upon ice racing approximately 20 years ago in Peterborough and enjoyed it so much he decided to join in the fun. He became a racer himself and soon brought this exciting event to our area.

The races are broken into different classes each offering different levels of entertainment. The classes are as follows: Rubber Class: front wheel drive, rear wheel drive and 4 wheel drive vehicles. Stud Tire Class: front wheel drive, rear wheel drive and 4-wheel drive.

The rubber class, being that it is held on ice, offers some comical entertainment as you watch vehicles slip and slid on the surface, making their way around the track. Although the speed of the vehicles tend not to surpass some where in the

neighbourhood of 40 clicks, the manner in which the racers make their way around the track is fun to view. The studded tire class offers higher speed racing reaching speeds of 80 – 90 km on the snowy, icy track.

I must say, we attended this event for the first time last year, and they were an absolute riot to watch.

The first race is scheduled for January 11 & 12. The races are then held every weekend for 6 consecutive weekends with two raindate weekends at the end.

One rule change new this year is that rear wheel vehicles can now have any size engine in them.

Do yourself a favour and check this event out!



Why is Christmas sometimes spelled Xmas?

...especially when combined with the word "sale"? According to the book Did you ever Wonder... by Jeff Rovin, the word for Christ in Greek is Xristos. The use of the shortened form "Xmas" became popular in Europe in the 1500s.

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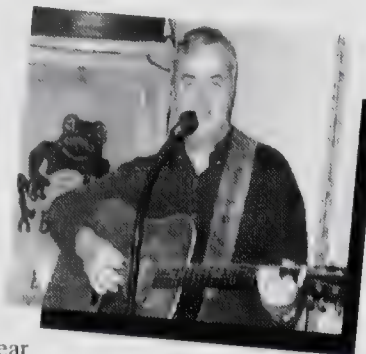
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Dining and Entertainment

Entertainer Jeff
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Bull Frogs Bistro



Bull Frogs Bistro Features Live Entertainment & More...

by Diana Burns

Great food, live entertainment, a beautiful view during any time of the year and an on-site collection of more than five hundred and fifty frog figurines and collectibles. That's what you will find at Bull Frogs Bistro in Eagle Lake.

The restaurant's name was chosen in reference to the natural protected area it overlooks on Eagle Lake called 'Frog Land'. It was built in the Fall of 1999, opened the following January and was the Millennium project of owners' Marj Kennedy and Larry Tupling. The restaurant immediately gained recognition when it was awarded the Business of The Year award by the Chamber of Commerce.

Their menu includes pasta, steak, fish and chicken, with seasonal changes to permit the use of fresh produce, but their specialty they are well known for is their prime-rib offer where

two can dine for \$19.95. This special is offered year

round on Saturdays only and is very popular. On Sundays they offer an all-day buffet from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at only \$9.95 per person. They also have a child's menu.

The dining area on the top floor of their restaurant and the downstairs lounge accommodates eighty people during the winter and a total of one-hundred and fourteen during the rest of the year when the patio is in use. Just down the stairs at the main entrance you will find a large lounge and bar. The bar 'The Swamp' and lounge areas have a filtration system so that nonsmoking patrons can enjoy the lounge as well. The lounge features live

entertainment on Saturday evenings with easy listening classic country and classic rock music performed by Jeff Barry. Snuggle up to the fireside fireplace and relax with your favourite

Bull Frogs cont'd... pg. 51 ...



Owner Marg Kennedy serves a customer at the bar called 'The Swamp'.



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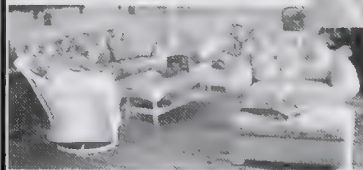
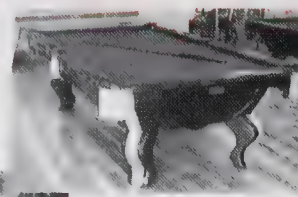
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Bull Frogs Bistro

... from pg. 50



Valerie Newmann serves customers Don Kuzenko of Eagle Lake and John Bennett of Winnipeg.

drink, watch TV or play a game or two of Shuffle Board.

Marj grew up in the surroundings of her family-owned resort but went on to work in the corporate world. In 1984, Marj spotted an ad in the Star for the private sale of Silver Eagle Resort in the Haliburton area. She had never seen or visited the area before this but after seeing the resort she knew she was ready for a change and that this was the right choice. The resort consisted of fourteen cottages on the shores of Eagle Lake. At first the resort accommodated the snowmobile enthusiasts and provided the services of a refueling station but its facilities and beach front soon acquired a summer clientele. The restaurant and lounge were built to bring together the demand and supply to snowmobilers staying at the resort for the winter. The restaurant has easy access for the snowmobilers at the lakeside lounge entrance and custom-built racks inside the lounge for helmets and suits. Marj knows that snowmobilers have time traveling schedules to follow and her motto to them is, "Eat in or out in an hour or less."

The bistro will be open year round seven days-a-week commencing December 20, except for Christmas Day. Reservations are not required but they are appreciated during the weekends and the peak summer season. Marj likes to accommodate all her customers and says that "Quality, quantity and consistency are their aim." Marj offers her customers an open and friendly relaxed atmosphere as if they were at home, she has even been known to watch over the occasional baby or entertain a child or two with her talking frog so that the parents can enjoy their meal.

They also offer large or small in-house catering services for special events such as weddings, and during the summer months they provide boat cruises.

The restaurant and lounge are conveniently located on the shore of Eagle Lake for direct access not only for snowmobilers but fly-in customers by plane and helicopter at their docks. You can find the Bullfrog Bistro or Silver Eagle Resort on Sir Sam's Road at Eagle Lake. If you wish to make reservations and take advantage of their prime rib special, call 754-4462.

How much turkey do I buy?

Whole Bird: count on buying approximately one pound per person. Therefore, a 10 pound (4.5 kilogram) turkey would serve 10 people.



Open throughout the holidays
Reservations required

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Best Wishes

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serve you this year

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Ho! Ho! Ho!

Here's to fun-filled holidays,
happy family times,
good food and great friends!

from everyone at

Bull Frogs Bistro

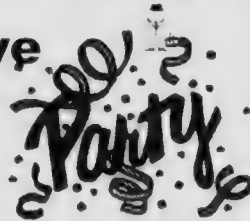
Eagle Lake



Season's Greetings from
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New Years Eve
December 31

Featuring
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LCBO

Recipes of the Month

Candied Cranberries

1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup water
1/2 cup cranberries

Select firm, red cranberries and prick once or twice with a needle. Boil the sugar in the water until it spins a thread. Put in cranberries and cook gently until syrup jellies when tested from the tip of a spoon. Remove berries one at a time and place on wax paper. Let stand until dry. Dip the berries in granulated sugar.

These are very decorative and can serve as an excellent garnish.

Makes 20 - 25.

Santa's Best Ever Xmas Sugar Cookies

1 C. oil
1 C. powdered sugar
1 C butter (do not use margarine or Naughty
Elves will visit you)
1 C. white sugar
2 eggs
1 tsp. vanilla
4 C. plus 4 T. flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream oil, powdered sugar, butter and white sugar. Add eggs and vanilla; cream this mixture very well. Sift flour, baking soda cream of tartar and salt. Add to the creamed mixture and cream well again until thoroughly mixed. CHILL COVERED OVERNIGHT. Roll into balls the size of walnuts. Roll balls in sugar, put on cookie sheet and flatten with a glass dipped in sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for about 11 minutes. Do NOT overbake. This will make about six dozen. Mmmmmmmmmmm. More likely five dozen since these cookies mysteriously disappear when kids are around.



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TigerBox DJ - State of the Art Plus ...

If you need sound, lights, fog and action, Tiger Box DJ Service can definitely get the job done for you and your event, no matter how big or small.

The business is owned by Ray Miller and Caryl Moulton of Eagle Lake.

Forget your visions of someone flipping records or CD's on a stereo on a stage. Tiger Box's sound system is state-of-the-art. The music is formatted on a hard drive using OTS which is a new way of keeping music. "The files are smaller than MP3 and easier to mix," says Ray. "The breaks between songs are also shorter." All the music comes direct from a computer.

In fact, Tiger Box has over 10,000 songs to choose from. How do they keep up with all the new music? We subscribe to a service that sends us all the new popular stuff every month," says Caryl. "We get some music before the radio stations do," adds Ray.

Tiger Box's database consists of most genres: jazz, pop, rock, dance, blues, country, swing, Eurodance, and top hits!

"We can provide you with any kind of music you need," says Caryl.

"It's funny when young kids come up and ask if we have EMINEM and we say 'of course'. It's quite a compliment when 14 year-old kids come up to us and say 'you're cool'. Of course we get edited versions of the songs so they're not offensive," she adds.

Another interesting thing about the DJ service is that the sound is always directed where it's needed. "We make it so it's perfect sound on the dance floor yet everyone sitting at the tables can hear each other talk without raising their voices," says Ray.

But these folks provide more than just music and sound for your event. They have an amazing light system that pulses and throbs to the music. They're not strobe lights. The light show is amazing and is enhanced by a fog machine. "The fog

is actually water vapour that's totally harmless. It's actually good for you," says Caryl.

The sound system, which is actually called 'The Tiger Box', was designed and built by Ray who is a sound technician who spent many years researching sound systems to develop a 'better way'. Ray had been to too many events where the sound quality was poor, too loud, and the DJ's just played whatever they wanted to play. Ray has definitely achieved 'a better way'.

"He's amazing with computers and sound," says Caryl. "He could take a computer and turn it into a microwave in no time," she adds. Ray built the system that the future CANOE FM radio station will be using. He also did it all at 'no charge' for the community station.

Something you may not think about is the fact that DJ services need to be fully licensed. Like radio stations, a fee is paid out so that artists receive compensation when their music is played. Tiger Box is fully licensed and also carries huge liability insurance in case anyone trips over a wire or equipment. "This doesn't happen though. We're very careful to have any wires covered," says Ray.

Besides providing a DJ service, Tiger Box can provide sound and amplification for any event. They have all the P.A. systems, microphones, speakers and amps you could ever need for weddings, outdoor events or any time sound amplification is needed for live entertainment. They will be providing the sound system for the sled dog races in January in Haliburton.

Ray & Caryl say they love doing what they do and consider it hobby. If you have any questions regarding sound

Tigerbox cont'd... pg. 55 ...



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December Hours

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Appearing at The Wild Orchid Bistro

Saturday, December 21st
from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Shirley A. McCormick

Shirley is the local author of *The Estate of Mrs. Pearl Whiteman*, *Seasons at Redstone Creek*, both fiction novels and *Days in Green and Blue*, a collection of poetry.

Shirley would be pleased to meet you and talk about her books.

Silver Flutes Play Toronto Santa Claus Parade Every Year

Whether you've never picked up a flute in your life or you're a seasoned professional, you're invited to join the Haliburton Highlands Silver Flutes band, or if you like drums, you're also welcome.

Within 6 months you'll be trained and competent to play along, and heading to play in the world famous Toronto Santa Claus Parade next year.

"I think we're the only organization to promote the Highlands to the world," says Bill Medley, member of the group and music instructor. "The Toronto parade is broadcasted on TV to all North America and Europe," says Bill. The Haliburton Highlands Silver Flute band participates in this parade annually.

"The success for me is to watch the glitter in the kids eyes when they learn to play," says Bill. "It's amazing when you see a person who was struggling to progress get good. That's the success."

Bill also likes to teach the members and kids to do things for

charity, like playing at extendicare. "They need to understand that you need to give in order to receive," he says.

The Silver Flutes began 8 years ago with 6 members and have now grown to 46 players.

Bill recalls being at a Santa Claus parade in Haliburton 9 years ago when he noticed there were no bands playing in it. He organized 6 players and bought \$200 worth of drums from the Legion. "It just mushroomed from there," says Bill.

The newly formed group was hired by the Minden Lions Club to play the Minden Santa Claus Parade in 1994 – their first parade! "They paid us \$800. That gave us our start – they put us in business and we will always be there

to play for them," says Bill. The money was used to purchase more equipment.

They've played in the Toronto Santa Claus Parade for the past 5 years, and they also play at Kitchener's Octoberfest Celebration which is Canada's number 1 Octoberfest attraction.

Bill says they'd like to see more players from the Minden area. "We want it to be a county wide band. We have players from all over – even as far as Kinmount and Gooderham."

The Silver Flutes get together to practice every week at the St. Georges Church in Haliburton on Thursday nights from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Bill also teaches drums from 7 – 8 on Wednesday nights and



Bill Medley is pictured conducting The Silver Flutes at the Minden Parade



Silver Flutes cont'd... pg. 55 ...

Have a HUGE SLICE of Christmas Joy!

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Brenda and Staff



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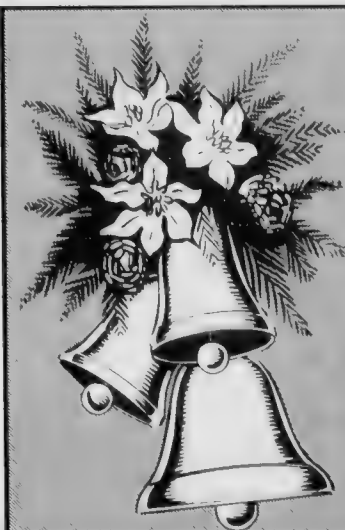
Holiday Greetings

We're happy to have this opportunity to express our gratitude and offer our very best wishes to all of you at this joyous time of year.

Thank you!

Steve, Jane & Staff

Haliburton
SUBWAY



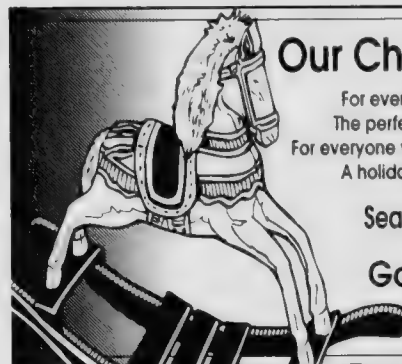
Our Christmas Wish:

For every girl and every boy
The perfect gift and lots of joy.
For everyone who's been good this year,
A holiday that's full of cheer.

Season's greetings!

Gopher's Cafe

Haliburton



The Silver Flutes - Your Lessons & Instruments are FREE!

... from pg. 54



flute again at JDH School from 3:30 - 4:30 Tuesday nights.

Bill invites anyone of any age to come and see what the group is all about and see if it's for them. There is no cost at all to join. Instruments and uniforms are provided for free, and so is the instruction.

"When we go to the Toronto Santa Parade, the accommodations are also covered," says Bill. "We've never taken a penny from members unless they offer donations."

For further details you may contact Bill Medley at 754-4464.

Tiger Box D.J. Service

... from pg. 53

amplification of any kind, Ray says he'll be happy to answer your questions. The couple also say they'd be willing to train someone in their field who has good knowledge of computers. "That's how it all works now. You can't be afraid of the computer," says Caryl.

So, whether you need sound for a wedding, party, live event or any event requiring sound, give Ray or Caryl a call and they'll be happy to sit down with you and plan out your event to totally suit your needs.

Tiger Box DJ Service can be reached at 754-3777. Sound good???



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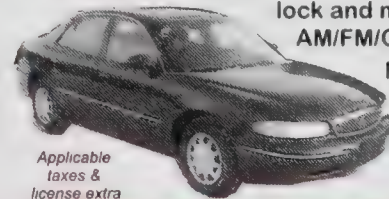
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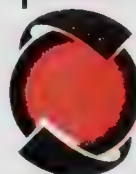
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Highlights from the Minden Santa Clause Parade



Pictured is just a sample of what this year's Minden Parade was all about. From sparks dressed as snowmen, to clowns, and kids on floats, the parade was a huge success.



Following the parade, children had the chance to visit with Santa. As you can see by the expressions of the children, he was definately the main attraction of the day, and put a smile on the faces of many who attended.

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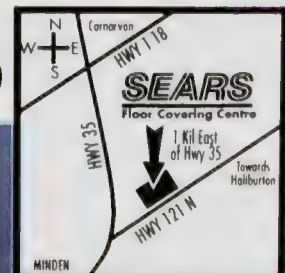
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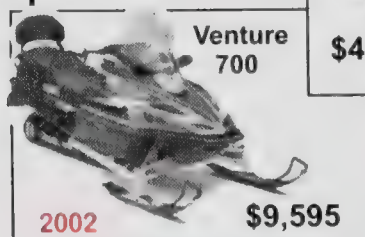
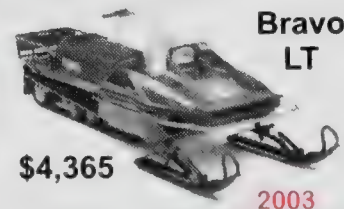
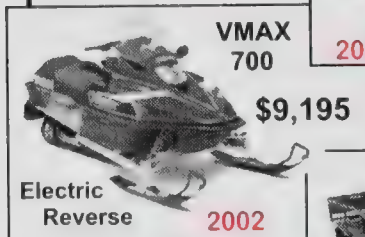
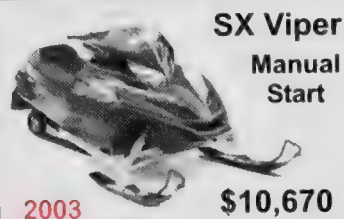
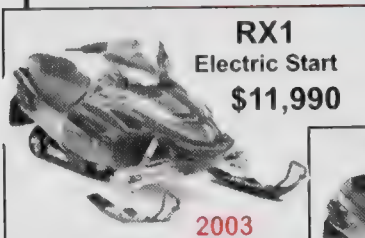
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Believe It Or Not!

Carols are banned but bounce back

Christmas carols were banned between 1649 and 1660 in England by Oliver Cromwell who thought that Christmas should be a solemn day. (Cromwell also abolished the monarchy.)

"A Christmas Carol"

Charles Dickens wrote A Christmas Carol in 1834.

It's A Hit...

The biggest selling Christmas single of all time is Bing Crosby's White Christmas, soundtrack of the holiday movie classic Holiday Inn. More than 30 million copies have been sold. (In fact, only Elton John's Candle in the Wind '97 has sold more copies, at 33 million.)

Sending You Greetings....

Though wood engravers produced prints with religious themes in the European Middle Ages, the first commercial Christmas and New Year's card was designed in London, England in 1843.

Father Christmas on Christmas cards

The first greeting card produced in North America was by German lithographer, Louis Prang, who emigrated to New York around 1850. Prang set up a workshop in Boston, Massachusetts in 1860 and began to produce the first colour cards with scenes of winter tales for Christmas and New Year.

Today, greeting cards is a multi-billion dollar industry supplying cards for just about any occasion.

Christmas Shopping...

With some 400 million VISA and MasterCard currently in force, shoppers spend about \$4 billion per shopping day or about \$2.8 million each minute in the US alone. The average US citizen carries 2,3 credit cards, spending about \$600 per person

Let there be lights....

Three years after Thomas Edison invented the electric light bulb in 1879, Edward H. Johnson, who worked for Edison's company, had Christmas tree bulbs especially made for him. He proudly displayed his electric tree lights at his home on Fifth Avenue, New York City. They caused a sensation although some years were to pass before mass-manufactured Christmas tree lights were widely available.

Job Creation....

In America in 1822, the postmaster of Washington, DC, complained that he had to add 16 mailmen at Christmas to deal with cards alone. He wanted the number of cards a person could send limited by law. "I don't know what we'll do if this keeps on," he wrote.

Why he's magical....

Due to the time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts? This means that he visits 832 homes each second!

SERVICE DIRECTORY FEATURE

Whitfield Plumbing

It's a business that's been family owned and operated since 1939. Whitfield Plumbing and Heating is owned and operated by Adrian and Marie Whitfield of Haliburton. Adrian took over in 1976 from his father who founded the business. Adrian has since expanded into some new practices.

The business provides sales, service and installation of all plumbing fixtures right through to septic systems. They also supply heating systems including radiant floor heating. "Radiant floor heating works from an oil or electric fixed boiler. It's the only way to heat a concrete floor," says Adrian. "It's a



Marie & Adrian

little more expensive but it's better heat. You're heating from the ground up. Once people walk on a heated floor, they're usually sold on the concept. It's more comfortable heat. Any hot water heating gives you more control and comfort," he adds.

Adrian advises people who are getting any plumbing work to find out about workmanship, quality and compensation insurance. "It's important that people know if their contractors are insured. If a worker gets hurt while working at your home, you become liable if they're not covered through Worker's Comp. I've seen it happen when guys are doing cash jobs," says Adrian. Adrian's business is fully licensed and insured.

He also says there's a lot of difference in the quality of plumbing fixtures and parts. "It's a big investment so people should know that they're getting what they pay for." Whitfield Plumbing and Heating supplies a complete line of brand name fixtures and parts.

The business also installs and repairs water pumps and systems and water conditioners.

Adrian advises that he's seen pipes freeze around -16 C and if this happens to you, he can help.

Adrian says he enjoys the business because it gives him the flexibility of working both outside and in and meeting people. Marie is usually in the office but says, "I've got a great view though." The office is on Highland Street and looks out over Head Lake in Haliburton.

If you have any questions regarding anything to do with plumbing, Adrian and Marie are more than willing to help you out. They can be reached at 457-1077 Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If they're not available, leave a message on the machine and they'll get back to you. They also check their e-mail frequently. That address is mwhit@on.aibn.com.



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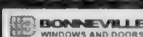
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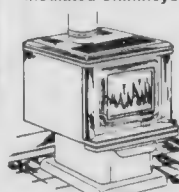


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Brain Teaser of the Month

There are 11 human faces in the picture. Can you find them all?
Normal people find 4 or 5 of them.
If you find 8 of them, you have an extraordinary sense of observation.



If you find 9 of them, you have a sense of observation above of the average.
If you find 10 of them, you are very observer.
If you find 11 of them, you are extremely observer.

For family members who cannot come home, plan a candle lighting ceremony at a designated time, thinking of each other as you light the candles, this loving thought will bring family members together even though you are miles apart



by Cindy Ablett

Don't forget film and batteries

Check supplies for you table, is your tablecloth the right size, do

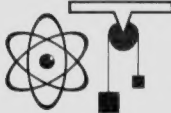
you have enough knives, forks, glasses and cups

If you are having guests for dinner, play pass the hat as guests arrive. Ask your guests to pull out a piece of paper which will have a job, such as mash the potatoes, set table, make gravy etc. heavier jobs will require more than 1 person. Children should be included giving them the easier jobs

Plan your Christmas menu and make a list for Christmas day eating, don't loose your list and don't forget breakfast



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How would you like to win \$50 cash? Well it's easy with the Communicator!

Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam – The advertising man. We will be hiding a few Sam's in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one. Once you think you have found all the Sam's you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, your name, address and telephone number, and get them to the Highlands Communicator.

Entries will be put into a draw. The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$50! It's that easy and it's fun too! Start scouting for Sam the Advertising Man right away. And good luck to all!

Hello, I'm Sam
the Advertising
Man. Spot me for
your chance to
WIN \$50.00
Just read how!



Send your entries to with name & phone number to:

The Highlands Communicator, Box 332
Wilberforce, Ont., K0L 3C0, or you can drop them
off at our drop off centre at H&R Block / Central
Office Supplies in Haliburton,
email: highlandscommunicator@hotmail.com,
fax: (705) 448-1995.

There were 5 Sam's hidden in last month's
issue. They were hidden in the following
ads:

Country Rose, Haliburton Self Storage, Minden
Home Hardware, Haliburton Optical and Churko
Electric.

**The winner of last month's
Spot Sam contest is Mary
Pockett of Haliburton.**

More Winners!!...

The Winner of last month's Dinner for Two at the
Kosy Korner and CD by Zoe Chilco and \$50
Shopping Spree at Pine Reflections is Sharon
Harrison from Ingoldsby.

Keep Trying...

There was entries, but unfortunately no right
answers yet to the Who Dun-it contest last month.
We're extending it to next month so keep trying
and send in your guesses!

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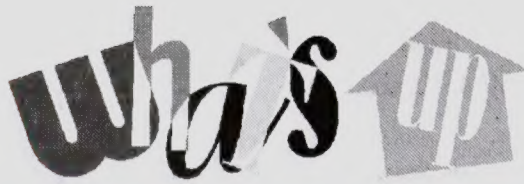
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How would you like to win a Prime Rib Dinner for Two at Bull Frogs Bistro, and an adventurous dog sled ride for two?

It's easy... Just answer the questions below - the answers can be found in the stories we've featured in this issue. Send your answers along with your name, phone number and address tous. The first correct answer pulled wins!!

Winterdance Dog Sled Story (pg. 48)

- 1) How many dogs do they have?
- 2) How Many dogs are on a 1 hour run?
- 3) What's is their most popular tour?

Bull Frogs Bistro Story (pg. 50)

- 1) What award did they receive?
- 2) What does Sunday offer for \$9.95 per person?
- 3) What's the bar called?

Mail entries to: The Communicator
Box 332, Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0
Fax: 448-1995
Email: highlands@thecommunicator.ca

Every Weekend in the winter months:

Ice Races in Minden at the Minden Fair Grounds. See pg 49 for story..

December 19

JDHES Christmas Concert at 7 p.m.

December 21

Author Shirley A. McCormick appearing at the Wild Orchid Bistro in Minden. See ad pg. 53.

December 21

Holiday starts for school kids!!

December 31

New Yearss Eve dance at the Haliburton Legion featuring Northern Jam.

December 31

New Years Eve party at Carnarvon Bowl featuring 'Ya Babies'. See ad pg. 52 for details

January 6

Back to school!!

January 11 - 12

Dog Sled Derby in Haliburton - See pg. 4 for story.

January 25

Snowarama for Easater Seal Kids at the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve. See pg. 39 for details.

January 25 & 26

The Highland Cup - Pro Tour Snowmobile Race in Minden. See pg. 15 for details.



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AT THE

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with host Tim Weston
from ROCK 95

Video Dance, Finger Food Buffet
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Prizes, and Champagne at
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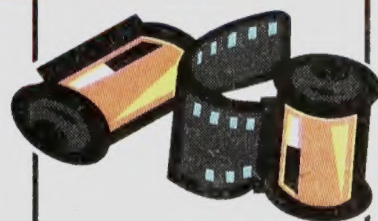
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